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# VICK's FAMILY MAGAZINE 

VOL. XXVI.
DECEMBER 1902
N O. 10

FIEI.DS OF FLOWERS IN OREGON. (Written for Vick's Family Magazine.)
This country is as different as possible in climate and every other respect from our coast home. Union is in a valley up in the Blue Mountains. Whichever way we look, mountains loom up, peak after peak, some snow-capped, some green with the Oregon pine, and others brown like in California. The cloud effects and sunsets here are something wonderful. I never saw such sunsets before, even at the Golden Gate.

The Professor has a horse and buggy and drives all over the country collecting grasses and plants, both the useful ones and the troublesome weeds. He makes photographs of them and dried specimens. He has made about one hundred and forty photographs of grasses. I print and finish the pictures, which work I enjoy very much. I ride with him wherever he goes, over mountain tops, and through canyons where the scenery is beyond the power of my poor pen to describe. The country is full of mountain streams which abound in trout, and every one here goes fishing.

We saw immense fields of the blue Camassia; at a distance they looked like a blue sea. These plants have a bulb which looks just like a small white onion. The Indians use it for food; I am told that they steam and dry it. The white Camassia is not as plentiful; it is said to be a deadly poison.

During one ride over the mountain tops we found a small valley, about 4,000 feet altitude, where were growing acres of white Sunflowers, some pure white and others a delicate cream color. They write from the colleges, and also from Washington, that this has never been reported before.

There is a pink clover here which the Professor says he has never seen but in one other place, in eastern Washington. I have often thought of you when we were riding and would see fields that looked like carpets, so thickly covered were they with different colored flowers.

The rock formations here would be a rich treat to a geologist. One can easily imagine the most picturesque old castles and towers. Photographs can give but little idea of them. In the photograph of the field of Camassia the fence in the fore-ground is what they call a "grasshopper" fence; such are built where it is difficult to dig

white camassia.
like of which none who have not seen it ever have dreamed of. It is surrounded by a high wall and has plants in it from every country under the sun. The white-haired old gentleman and his group of grandchildren hanging about him take the visitors about gladly, and first thing the new comers stop at is a large oval plot, set out with small plants around the edge. "This,"-as the judge usually remarks, "is my clock. What time is it, Clara?" is his query of one of the children. One day when a friend of mine was present, the girl ran around the plot and said it was four o'clock, and so it was. The four o'clock was in bloom. In
post holes. Beyond the fence is the sea of blue Camassia. We never saw Dandelions in California, but this state is over-run with them. A lady told me that her husband's mother brought the first ones to this state and planted them so as to have some "greens.'

## E. S. Leckenby.

## TELLING TIME BY FLOWERS

 (Written for Vlek's Family Magazine.)Over in the French quarter of New Orleans is a judge's house, unattractive outside, but as soon as you get into the broad hall a cool breeze strikes you, laden with the balm of a thousand flowers. The hall leads right through the house, and opens into a regular fairyland of flowers-a garden, the
fact the clock was made up of flowers. In the centre was a pair of hands, of wood, covered with some beautiful vine, but they had nothing, however, to do with the time telling.

The plan was this: The judge had noticed that at almost every hour in the day some plant bloomed, and, working on this principle, he had selected plants of different hours and placed them in a circle, twenty-four in number, one for every hour. For example, at the top of the earthen clock, at twelve o'clock, was planted the portulacca, and he told our friend it would bloom within ten minutes of twelve and rarely miss. At the hours of one, two and three he had different varieties of this same plant, all of which bloomed at the hour opposite which they were planted. At four o'clock he had our common plant of that name, and you all know how you can depend on that. At five the nyctago came out, at six the geranium triste, and at seven the evening primrose. Opposite eight o'clock he had the bon nox and at nine the silent noctiflora-all these blooming at or near the time given. At ten o'clock, if I remember my friend's statement rightly, the judge had a cactus, at eleven another kind, and at twelve the night-blooming cereus.

Half of the year some of the plants do not bloom at all. The plants opposite one and two in the morning were cacti, that bloomed about that time; at three was planted the common salsify, at four the chicory, at five the snow-thistle, and at six the dandelion. This was certainly a unique way of telling the time; something similar might, perhaps, be worked out in other gardens.
G. B. Griffith.

## THE EARTH HAS GROWN OLD.

The earth has grown old with its burden of care, But at Christmas it always is young;
The heart of the jewel burns lustrous and fair,
And its soul full of music breaks forth on the air, When the song of the angels is sung.
It is coming, old earth, it is coming tonight ! On the snowflakes that cover thy sod
The feet of the Christ-Child fall gentle and white, And the voice of the Christ-Child tells out with delight That mankind are the children of God.
The feet of the humblest may walk in the field Where the feet of the holiest have trod;
This, this is the marvel to mortals revealed
When the silvery trumpets of Christmas have pealed, That mankind are the children of God. Phillips Brooks


## WINTER DECORATIONS.

"This spray of seeled grass, yellow and dry, Plucked in the golden summer, months ago, Still in my vase the pristine grace doth show With which it bore its freightage airily.
When the stormy winter days arrive and fresh flowers are not always obtainable, we begin to appreciate the bright-colored blossoms and fruit which we have, perhaps, gathered in a haphazard sort of way during the summer and fall. When we find how bright and cheery they are, we wish we had more, and resolve to make a business of collecting such material the coming year.

The so-called everlasting flowers make effective decorations for churches and schoolrooms in connection with evergreens, the somber green of which they relieve with their brightcolors. Most of the everlastings are annuals and the seed should be sown in the spring. They do not make much show during the summer, but if gathered at the right time and properly dried they will be found veritable treasures for winter decorations. They retain their form and color for years, and can be used over and over again. The blossoms of the everlastings should always be gathered before they are fully open, and some species are prettiest when in bud. They should be picked on a dry day. tied up in small bunches and hung in the shade heads down, so that the stems will dry straight.

The Acrocliniums, dainty, straw-like little flowers, pink and white in color; the Helichrysums with showy blossoms of white, yellow, and red of many shades deepening into brown; and the Helipterums with clusters of small, golden yellow flowers, are all good for decorations. Our wild white everlastings, too, if gathered before they open, are very pretty and work in to advantage with the more showy cultivated varieties.

The Gypsophilas and Statice, though not everlastings, dry nicely and are very valuable for winter use. Their delicate network of stems and blossoms combines prettily with bright everlastings. The glistening, silvery seedpods of Lunaria biennis, popularly known as Honesty, or Money in Both Pockets, are pretty and showy, either by themselves or with other material.

Some of the ornamental grasses dry nicely and are very pretty when carelessly arranged in a vase. The Stipa pennata, or Feather Grass, and Pennisetum longistylum are among the prettiest, and the airy, feather-like panicles of the Eulalias are very graceful. Many of the wild grasses are quite as pretty as the cultivated ones. Eriophorum, or Cotton Grass, which'growsin swamps, is very delicate, and, if gathered early enough, will last
several years, retaining all its drooping gracefulness. Wheat and barley dry nicely and are particularly appropriate for Thanksgiving decorations.

The plumose seeds of our native Clematis, if gathered before frost touches them, make beautiful ornamentation. Cut sprays of the vines and weave pressed Ferns and Bittersweet berries among the airy, feathery seeds of the Clematis, and a very artistic effect will be produced.

Fern fronds can be pressed and attached to curtains or fastened against white or light-tinted walls, and so used make ideal decorations. They will keep green a long time, and still retain their beauty after they have lost their natural color, the faded fronds gradually acquiring a lace-like appearance and becoming almost transparent.

The panicles of Hydrangea paniculata, if cut when the blossoms have begun to turn will retain their coloring and afford beautiful bouquets for the mantel in winter. They must notbe cut too early or the blossoms will wither. By gathering some when pink, and others later when they have become green, a variety of tints can be secured. Some think they dry best if suspended heads down; others say to arrange them in such vase or receptacle as you wish, and when drying they will shape themselves by contact with each other, producing a graceful effect.

The much-abused perennial sold under the name of Chinese Lantern Plant, when growing in the garden is very coarse looking, but when the semi-transparent, balloon-like calyx gradually changes from a light green to a pale yellow, then to orange, and finally to a brilliantred, the plant becomes quite ornamental, and if the branches are cut, hung up and dried heads down, the "lanterns" will retain their bright coloring for an indefinite period. If cut when some of the "lanterns" are green, some shaded yellow and green, and some red, the contrast is very pretty, and if hung where the light shines through them the effect is particularly pleasing. The "lanterns" are so large that they make effective decorations and are well adapted for use in schoolrooms.

The fruit of the Climbing Bittersweet is very ornamental. The orange-colored outer covering divides, displaying the bright red berries which keep their color for years. They can be used to advantage with evergreens for Christmas decorations. If the berries become covered with dust, or wither, they can be refreshed by putting them in cold water a few minutes, then drying again.

The Black Alder (Ilex verticillata) is invaluable for winter use. The berries cluster thickly around the stem and are the most brilliant scarlet imaginable. They retain their vivid color for months and make a striking ornamentation. The dingy walls of an old stone schoolhouse in the country once glowed all winter with their radiance, and the teacher, at least, was cheered with their brightness. The leaves of the Alder soon wither, and the berries make the most effective display when mixed with evergreens. Of late years branches of the Black Alder have been offered for sale in the market at Christmas time. The ber-
ries are more lasting than Holly, and more satisfactory for decoration. It can be commended to all who wish something both showy and lasting,

The berries of the Barberry will keep their bright hue a year or more; drooping sprays of them are very graceful and add a touch of brightness to a room on a dark, gloomy day. When they become dusty they can be restored to brightness in the same way as Bittersweet berries.

Only a few of the flowers and fruits which can be used for decoration have been named; many more might be mentioned. One can scarcely take a walk through the fields and woods in the fall without finding an abundance of decorative material, and even yet more or less can be found that will cheat winter of some of its dreariness.

Florence Beckwith.

## GREEN IN WINTER.

We are just beginning to find out how comforting to the eyes, and enjoyable, are Foliage plants in winter. In my sitting room, is a family friend, the Palm Latania, with arching leaves, measuring a yard around. When the ground is covered with snow, and a cold wind blows without, I draw my rocking chair under Latania and dream of summer. The little Cocos Weddeliana, with its rich, green arching leaves, is pretty anywhere, but place it in the center of the dining table, and see how the family enjoy the meal. Ferns are a little harder to manage in the living room, but frequent showerings, and extra care are well repaid. A well grown Umbrella plant in a large pot, with Tradescantia, or inch plant, hanging over the edge, is always pleasing and very little trouble; all it asks for is plenty of water in the saucer. The Begonias, are refreshingly green and beautiful, even without flowers, also Grevillia, and Abutilons.

But the florists have prepared for us a most interesting family of plants, the made over Asparagus. Last winter, in a corner of my sitting room grew Sprengeri. It drooped over the pot in long graceful tendrils, and always brought a smile to a tired face. Then there is dear little Plumosus, sometimes called Lace Fern, because the dark green foliage is so delicate. I had a genuine surprise over the Fern ball which arrived one bleak January day. There was nothing very pretty about it at first, just a lot of moss, bound around with strings, but after it had been soaked and showered and the beautiful fronds came out, we were delighted. These green beauties in our homes through the long stormy Northern winters cause care and work, but they not only enliven us by their beauty, but they are health preservers. The air in the house must be pure to make them grow, and so better for us to breathe. Anna Lyman.

asparagus sprengeri.

## Night-blooming Cacti

In view of the fact that the blossoms of many species of Cacti are as beautiful as Orchids, that they can be obtained at a low price and will grow anywhere with little or no care, it is surprising that they are so little cultivated. When a plant is in full bloom the possessor is quite envied by her whole circle of acquaintances, many of whom resolve that they will at once procure a similar one, but florists say there is almost no demand for cacti of any kind, and, consequently, but few keep them in stock. And yet, there is no species of plant which requires less care, and none which will give more beautilul returns for labor bestowed. The flowers in many species are truly gorgeous, others are extremely delicate, and one blossom of some varieties will pay for all the care and trouble of years.
Almost the only complaint against the Cactus is, that one sometimes has to keep the plants so long before they bloom; but this is probably because the right treatment is not given them. They should be given but very little water in winter, and a plentiful supply when growth begins in the spring. A plant of a common red variety was once kept fourteen years before it bloomed. Many times the owner threatened to throw it away, but her heart was tender toward all her plants and she could not quite decide to give it up. At the end of the fourteen years it had two large, fine blossoms, and the next year it had a hundred. Needless to say it held its place without dispute after that, and gladdened itsowner with a profusion of bloom every year, so long as she lived.

The night blooming species of Cacti are not only beautiful, but particularly interesting on account of their time of opening and the briefness of their bloom. Cereus grandiflorus, or Night-blooming Cereus, is probably the best known of them all, but Phyllocactus latifrons, or broad-leaved Cactus, is just as beautiful, more easily cared for by the amateur, and in every way satisfactory. It will grow in any good soil, does not require a green house, needs no hot sun, and large plants will produce a succession of blossoms. It will do best if the soil is rich, plenty of water given it while growing, and a slightly shaded place provided during the hot summer months. In winter it should have just enough water to keep it from shriveling up. If a large cutting or branch be inserted in sand and well cared for during the summer it will usually make a satisfactory growth and bloom the second season, and every year following.

The blossoms of the Phyllocactus latifrons are very similar to those of Cereus grandiflorus; the smooth, large leaves, entirely free from spines, are the most distinguishing feature, the leaves or stems of the Cereus being round or angled, with prickers. The Phyllocactus blooms in the evening, so it is quite proper to call it a night-blooming Cactus, but it should not be called a nightblooming Cereus. The tube of the Phyllocactus is very long and slender; at first it is straight, but before it comes into bloom it takes a curious upward turn like a Dutchman's pipe. The outer sepals are a rich reddish brown, the petals a pure, delicate, glistening white. The throat of the flower is lined with a mass of silken stamens which part at the upper side of the blossoms and fall gracefully each way.. The pistil, surmounted by a velvety, starlike stigma, rises above the mass of stamens. The blossoms are very fragrant, and each one is a marvel whose delicate beauty grows upon you as you gaze into its heart. The flowers are short-lived, usually beginning to open about
dusk and closing before daylight, but large plants generally have a succession of bloom, affording pleasure for several evenings. When three or more blossoms open at once, the sight is beautiful beyond compare.
A blossom of Phyllocactus from a plant belonging to Mrs. Martha Brooks, was brought us the latter part of September. It ought to have bloomed in the night, but for some unexplainable reason, perhaps because the cold weather checked its growth and caused it to open before it was fully mature, or because it wanted to do something a little different from the ordinary, or, possibly, because it wanted to display its beauty in the full daylight-it opened unexpectedly in the forenoon. The latter reason seems quite plausible, as once before, a few years ago, three large flowers opened all at once in the daytime. This particular blossom was not quite so large as some which

had preceded it an evening or two, but it measured at least six inches across, and was just as beautiful as those which had bloomed at the strictly proper time. It opened about eight $o^{\prime}$ clock in the morning and was brought to us just at noon. It remained wide open about two hours; then a slight relaxation was noticed in the petals, which, soon began to slowly draw closer and closer together at the apex. By five o' clock it was fully closed, with nothing left to convey an idea of the superb beauty which had characterized it, but the recollection of its charms will not soon vanish from those who were so fortunate as to see it.

This year seemed to be a very favorable one for night-blooming Cacti, and many were reported as blossoming in various parts of our city, but this is the only one, so far as we know, which bloomed in the daytime. Its gradual closing was very interesting to witness, and was undoubtedly more easily observed in the daylight; it certainly was a pleasure and a privilege much appreciated.

Florence Beikwith.

## THE NIGHT-BLOOMING CEREUS.

(Written for Vick's Family Magazine.)
"Tonight," we said, "tonight it will unfold." Our eager eyes had watched day after day The growing bud swell from its mother leaf, Feeding upon her richest outpoured life; And now, at last, the longed for hour has come; We gather round, with bated breath, to see This queen of night put on her royal crown.
The slender, faint rose-tinted sepals part, Slowly at first; then, as if gaining strength, They open wide their circling, clinging arms, Till on our sight the marvelous beauty beams, Throbbing and quivering with fresh new life, Pure as an angel in her robe of white.

Long do we gaze upon the wondrous sight, Feasting our souls upon its loveliness; But all too soon our eyes detect a change; Those filmy petals, first erect and strong, Hang limp and lifeless, though still passing fair. Then, as sometimes a slowing closing door Hides from our sight a well beloved face, Even so those clinging arms, tightening their grasp, Hide this fast fading vision of the night.

Josephine P. Osmond.

## CHRYSANTHEMUMS AND PANSIES.

(Written for Viek's Family Magazine.)
The finest Chrysanthemums I ever grew were corn fed. This is how it happened, In May I bedded my plants in the open ground, repotting them in August. When doing this I was short of drainage material. Some corn cobs lay at hand and I broke them into pieces and put them in the bottom of the pots, placed on the dirt and potted my plants. Spears of corn kept coming up and I broke them off as fast as they appeared, wondering where all the corn came from until I remembered using the cobs for drainage in a few pots. I had two windows of fine Chrysanthemums. The John Lewis Childs had nine blossoms nine inches across.

A lady of my acquaintance finds that sowing Pansy seed the first of December and laying a window sash orer the ground, insures early germination of the seed and profuse blooming plants' in the springtime.

Eliza Bradish.

## THE SIGNS OF THE SEASONS.

What does it mean when the bluebird flies
Over the hills, singing sweet and clear?
When violets peep through the blades of grass? These are the signs that spring is here.
What does it mean when berries are ripe? When butterflies flit, and honey bees hum? When cattle stand under the shady trees? These are the signs that summer has come.
What does it mean when crickets chirp? And a way to the south land the wild geese steer? When apples are falling, and nuts are brown? These are the signs that autumn is here.

What does it mean when the days are short? When the leaves are gone and the brooks are dumb?
When the fields are white with the drifting snows? These are the signs that winter has come.
The old stars set and the new ones rise, And skies that were stormy grow bright and clear,
And so the beautiful, wonderful signs Go round and round with the changing year. M. E. N. Hathaway.



官HE temptation to strip the hothouse of flowers for Christmas and New Year is great. Cutflowers and fragrant sprigs of tender gre: in are so beautifully appropriate for gifts and for decorations that an amateur is frequently beguiled into the belief that the mission of the green house has been fulfilled when the yield of blooms has met the requisitions of Christmas and New Year; but when the holidays are over the scarcity of blooms will be felt. It is better to cut sparingly, and to make use of the potted plants in bloom, setting them in places to be brightened or decorated. Potted plants in full bloom are availabble for all decorative schemes, within the home, and ferns as they grow in pots or baskets display their fronds to better advantage than when cut. Palms and rubber or ficus plants are noble in the display of foliage. Cutting the flowers and foliage of specimen plants that have been the recipients of care for months is to be avoided, if the full enjoyment, all winter, is to be realized from the greenhouse. Certain kinds are moré available than others for cutting. Soft-wood begonias, particularly Vernon and Dewdrop, bloom so freely that a week or ten days will find them covered again with blooms, after having been closely cropped. Violets do better for frequent cutting. They bloom more freely when every mature blossom is cut, leaving none to form seed. Cyclamen, oxalis and sweet alyssum may be freely cut. They never cease blooming, given proper environments.

Roses, carnations, bouvardias, heliotropes and callas are showy where they bloom, and if possible, meet the requirements for cut flowers, by use of such as bloom in less time. It takes some time for a rose to form its beautiful buds and open its queenly double flowers. It is better to cut the roses only when there are buds advancing to fill the barren places left by cutting. Callas bloom in rapid succession, once started. The corms gather strength from September to December and will then bloom freely for months. Each bloom lasts several weeks, either on the plant or cut. In fact the blooms should not be cut at all. The long stem should be gently but firmly detached from the corm, but not cut.

The amateur does well to mingle evergreens with hot house flowers in decorations. There are some lovely evergreens common to the forest in all parts of the United States. The Holly Fern, or Polypody vulgare, is always fresh and green no matter how severe the winter. Its green fronds defy ice and sleet and actually revel in the snow that forms a blanket over the roots.


Then the aromatic checkerberry or wintergreen and Mitchella repens, or partridgeberry, and the ever-beautiful pipsissewa or ground pine, cost nothing but a delightful woodland ramble, and when brought home, compare favorably with the choicest of winter greenery. Mingled with the soft sweet flowers of hot house growth, the evergreen trophies of the forest are beautifully suggestive, quaint and interesting.

No winter greenery has the prestige and historic interest of the holly. All flower schemes are toned and touched up by the introduction of holly, and the fact is easily substantiated that our American holly is quite as fine as the English which is brought across the ocean by shiploads for holiday use. The Southern States annually send car loads of holly to large cities, in every direction, which forms quite a source of revenue for persons in the rural districts. Judicious care in cutting the flowers and greenery may be ex-
white sunflowers, (ste article phoe one.)
ercised so that a well-kept hot-house may supply the needs of Christmas and New Year, and continue to be a source of beauty in florescense, cheering the after-season when holiday delights have passed and gone. Mrs. G. T. Lrennan.

## SNOW-FLAKES.

## Out of the bosom of the Air,

Out of the cloud-folds of her garments shaken, Over the woodlands brown and bare,

Over the harvest-fields forsaken,
Silent, and soft, and slow
Descends the snow.
This is the poem of the air
Slowly in silent syllables recorded;
This is the secret of despair,
Long in the cloudy bosom hoarded,
Now whispered and revealed
To wood and field.
Longfellow.

## ORIGIN AND CUSTOMS OF CHRISTMAS.

(Written for Vick's Family Magazine.)

cHRISTMAS is the most popular of all holidays. It is also the most generally observed over the world. Its high and holy significance is generously accorded by the Christian churches, albeit there is no direct evidence that Christ was born on the 25 th of December. This day was set apart and celebrated further back than history can trace. It was so distinguished in the latter part of the second century in the reign of Commodus. Diocletian, a century afterward, while keeping court at Nicomedia, ordered the churches set on fire and all the Christians burned to death who had assembled to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Despite persecution, Christians clung to the dear belief, and held sacred service on every recurring Christmas Eve.

The early churches differed in the dates of observance, some one month after New Years, some others, but all seeming to agree upon the season when the shepherds of Judea nere wont to watch their flocks by night and to observe the stars. The final, irrevocable decision of all churches upon the 25 th of December was induced by various causes, one of which seems to have been a conciliatory disposition to humor the pagan nations in their universal custom of celebrating the winter solstice. They believed that to be the great time of the gods to bestow good gifts, their belief arising from the renewed forces and activities of nature incident to the season. The heathen gods were nothing more than the obscure personification and symbolism of what Christian intelligence and charity expresses as " Peace on earth, good will to men."

The early churches spiritualized and purified the customs, adopting such usages as might express the love of Christian followers for the Saviour at any season. The angels sang over Bethlehem, hence Christmas carols by the sweet voices of children were inaugurated. Christmaas carols ushered in the dawn as on the plains of Judea when-
"Cold on His cradle the dewdrops were lying,
Low lay His head with the beasts of the stall,
Angels adored Him in slumber reclining, Maker and Monarch and Saviour of all."
The Puritan Parliament in 1630 abolished Christmas carols, and instituted the Psalms of King David arranged as carols. These were unsuited to young voices and minds, and were never popular. Midnight chimes superseded the carols. English and Continental churches first, and then American, roused the sleeping world on Christmas eve, by the bells pealing forth in musical tones and silvery chimes the Christ-Child's birth. These chimes ever have resounded and ever will resound the wide world over, beautiful in symbolism, high and holy.

It has been said often and over and over, that the American people have too few holidays. The most pessimistic are forced, however, to admit that Christmas as a holiday, beginning with the midnight chimes, is heartily, religiously, rationally, generously, and socially very generally observed. From the fir forests of Canada to the silvery sands of the Gulf of Mexico, in its length and breadth, the New World has followed the (Continued on page thirty-nine.)


Talks About Flowers

## FLOWERS FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS

The prevailing custom of presenting one's friends with flowers at Christmas time is certainly worthy of encouragement. Flowers are acceptable to most persons at any time in the year, but especially so when the outside world is wrapped in snow. A choice plant presented with the best wishes of the season, naturally partakes of an added charm. It doesn't matter whether the recipient has all the plants she can decently care for or not; if she is a genuine flower lover, she will hail the additional treasure with joy and many thanks; for any plant from any place is regarded with favor by those who would rather have flowers than nice, clean desolate rooms.

And then, there are the people that love flowers but, for some reason or other, cannot have them. Would they appreciate a fine, blooming plant, along at this time of year? Try them and see. Perhaps you know of a family, the members of which are driven with work from morning till night. If so, present them with a bright faced, good natured hyacinth or two, and see if something doesn't happen. Under the influence of the flower the mother will partially forget her cares, and perhaps even the baby will cease to protest against the difficulties of life. May be there are shut-ins that would appreciate a fine, blossoming plant, even though they have already been provided with a number. After all, it isn't the gift, but the spirit that prompts it, that counts. If you know of some discouraged person that sees only the dark side of things, make him see the other side by presenting him with a dish of daffodils, for instance. Some weary dressmaker that lives up in the eighth story, spoils her eyes for ten hours each day and sees nothing but the 'seamy' side of things, will thank you from the bottom of her heart for a choice plant or two in full bloom. Blue people and black people, good, bad, and indifferent people will all be more or less benefited by a floral remembrance at this season of the year. There is no question but what flowers can accomplish a great deal, and if you decide to give any away, give to those who need them. There is just one class of people that I would not load with flowers: those who have plenty of time and money to grow them, but who rather depend on some one else for bouquets, whenever they want them.

I regard bulbs as about the most satisfactory flowers to present to one's friends, as gifts. Unless the weather is freezing, hyacinths, daffodils, etc., may be carried out-doors and in, without being harmed, and this cannot be done with all plants. Let the specimens be either in full bloom or nearly so. If the recipient is inclined to be critical, dress the pots or tin cans in crepe paper, ruffling the upper edge and holding it in place by a dab or two of mucilage and a band of ribbon. The paper may be of a dull green color, which is always in good taste, and the ribbon the same shade as the flowers. If wide ribbon is used, only one band and a bow will do; otherwise two bands will be better. Or better still, order some of the new paper jardinieres advertised on page sixteen of the November Vick's. Wrap the whole thing in clean, white paper, attach a sprig of holly and present.

Another very acceptable way to present bulbs is to give them away before they are potted. As late as December many seedsmen have fine, strong hyacinths, etc., left over from their fall supply, and a few dozens of these could be procured and
distributed as suggested. Form them into neat, Christmas packages and either mail or, deliver them to your friends. Here is where you can remember your friend out West or your friend down East. If you are packing a box of provisions for some distant relative, do not omit to include a few bulbs along with the other food; for, while canned meats and vegetables may feed the body, potted hyacinths and tulips will feed the soul, and are therefore of a great deal of consequence.

In presenting bulbs to people who have never grown them before, it might be advisable to include a few concise directions for their care. Your own experience, or a copy of some good floral publication would prove acceptable. Which leads me to say that while you are presenting your friends with flowers, why not give them, at the same time a year's subscription to sume enterprising floral magazine, that will help and encourage them in their gardening operations? If you decide to do this, remember that Vick's is second to none.

## CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS.

At Christmas time nearly all wide-awake people take pride in slicking up, and adding flowers and

foliage to contribute to the season's cheer. If their efforts are not directed toward adorning their living rooms, perhaps they are interested in decorating the church in as tasty and pleasing a manner as possible, and at as little expense. 'But," says someone, "in order to decorate our church in a tasty and pleasing manner, we shall have to be at expense. The palms and cut flowers alone will amount to quite a sum, and then there will be the help." To which may be replied that if the different members of a church can agree to furnish all necessary material from their homes, and if four or more persons of good taste and good judgment will take the work in charge, the church may be decorated in such a way as to rival its costlier neighbors, and at no expense.

Of course, in some cases it may be necessary to hire some of the work done, but generally speaking, the expense will be light. Cut flowers and other costly accussories are not necessary; and in rural communities one may depend largely on the woods and fields to furnish them with abundant
and beautiful material, especially if the weather is freezing or for any other reason choice house plants cannot be had. It is sometimes a good thing that a large amount of decorative material is out of the question, because if the church is small and the work of decorating is in the hands of incompetent persons who will use everything they can get, the resulting effect will be anything but reposeful and harmonious. As suggested before, the work should be undertaken by persons of artistic taste, good judgment and common sense. A committee should preferably be chosen, and the advice of the leader relied on and carried out.

Do not let the entire congregation assist in the decorating; do not try to make any intricate patterns and designs; do not depend too much on long strands of foliage, draped here and there; do not mass all of the plants in a solid bank; do not stand them in straight, stiff rows; do not 'place them in any one's way, and do not think that you are obliged to use everything brought to the church. To do so would very likely be a mistake, and if you should not discover it, some critical person would. Select only the choicest of everything and reject all that cannot be profitably worked into the scheme of decoration. Have a mental picture-or better still, one on paper-of how you desire the place to look, and then make it look that way.

The pulpit is the main point of attraction and most of the choicest plants, both blossoming and otherwise should be disposed of here. Generally, I would mass them into a more or less solid bank, with evergreens, palms or other tall plants at the back, and grade them down as to height, until the smallest ones are in front. Ground pine or other trailing vines may be worked in among the pots with good effect. It is much easier to say, "avoid formality" than it is to go to work and avoid it, but wherever possible, arrange your plants so they will not appear stiff, staid and stolid. If the front of the altar is curved, you will be able to create a much better effect than otherwise: but if it is straight it may be made to appear better by forming the plants in a sort of half-circle around its base.

Evergreens and tall palms may be used to advantage back of the choir; here artificial palms, which would not appear well at close range, may be profitably disposed of. Upon the wall, have an appropriate motto, if you wish. Let the letters be plain and reasonably large. If the background is dark, cover them with some soft, white material ; if light, cover with holly or small evergreen twigs. A star, cut from pasteboard and covered with brightly colored Autumn leaves may be placed above the motto, or at the back of the church or elsewhere, where it may be needed. The windows may usually be draped with pretty trailing vines; do not overload them and do not reproduce the same form of arrangement more than once if it can be avoided. Scarlet berries or rose tips placed against a dark wealth of foliage, will create a pleasing effect. They may often take the place of geraniums or other bright-flowered plants.

## SEASONABLE SUGGESTIONS.

Perhaps the plants that you put in the window garden a month or two ago are beginning to turn yellow, look sickly and refuse to grow, much less blossom. Perhaps in mistaken kindness you are (Continucd on page thirty-eight.,

# Chrough Fields and ZJoodlands 



## "A crow that flies in heaven's sweetest air.

In the summer time when there are so many creatures feathered or gauzy winged, hard-shelled or creeping to attract our attention we are apt to overlook the crow, one of the most intelligent of birds. Like the blue jay he has a bad name, but also like the jay he has his good points, though some prejudiced detractors will not allow him even one.
To get over the worst at the beginning we must allow that he is called a coward and a thief. It must be admitted that the crow is rather heavy and clumsy on
 the wing, and finds his only refuge from the sharp bills of smaller and more active birds in close1 y foliaged trees, or in some thick set bush where he can shake off these pests. But when the safety of his offspring is in question he is not at all afraid to fight, and makes a good and devoted parent, surely an admirable trait. It is at this period, when there are young in the nest, that he robs other nests for tender morsels to feed his own clamorous brood, whose requirements in the matter of food might appal even so resourceful a provider as the crow.

In regard to this particular species of birds it is very difficult not to read into their ways human attributes, practice much frowned down upon by many naturalists. We can only apply our own standards to their actions, and these most intelligent
 birds seem to reason, to study cause and effect and in getting their food outwit the craftiest devices of the farmer.

During the breeding season the number and variety of their notes is most varied. of course, but at all times they are capable of expressing their emoticns. Like all other black colored birds their voices are harsh and rasping, the fish crow which frequents our coast being the worst offender, and the raven so plentiful in the West and Southwest coming next. Why a bad voice should be associated with a sober coat one cannot tell, yet even the redwinged black bird with his gorgeous touches of scarlet and gold can make his flute very rasping on occasion, while the grackles sweetest note, the one he reserves for courting days, is little better than that emitted by a creaking door, and the English starlings becoming so abundant in New York City and along the Hudson, have a note which you must strain a point to call agreeable.
A small settlement of crows still make their home near mine, in some tall trees beside an old
happily mated, we will assume. Why the increase is so slow it is hard to say for the usual clutch of eggs varies from four to six. There were but two young raised this year, and one spent the whole of a July morning on our lawn following the man with the mowing machine, and gathering such a supply of tasty morsels that he expressed his satisfaction in a low, fluent commentary as he walked along. I tried many times to persuade him to let me lift him in my hands, but though he permitted my near approach, even went so far as to take some bits of cracked corn from my fingers, he always gave a flying hop just out of reach every time I endeavored to touch him. So it was necessary to admire him at a distance; to marvel at the splendil iridescence which showed on his back and sides; to note the intelligent eye which kept me always in range, and his dexterity in picking bugs and worms from the grass-roots.

As a part of the winter landscape crows make a wonderfully picturesque note against the dull gray sky; and even increase its beauty when they are thrown out in silhouette against a winter sunset. A youthful correspondent thinks it strange that I should like crows, writing that "they are bold birds and come down and eat my turkey's eggs,' not only this but refused to desist till hit with a stick. To call a cat that drinks unguarded cream, or a bird that eats eggs or corn a thief has always seemed to me a gross misuse of the term. They feel hunger, seek to gratify it, and if their favorite tidbit lies close and handy by, why should they not benefit by it? Before we can expect to improve their morals we must eradicate instinct. While the instinct of the crow leads him to eat birds' eggs and even young birds and corn, it also leads hịm to eat each year hundreds of thousands of grubs and worms which would work incalculable damage to the crops. For this valuable work it is only the more enlightened farmers who give him credit. They forget how he followed the plow during the raw March days, disposing of creatures that had hardly uncurled from their winter's nap, and remember only his misdemeanors in the cornfield.

The fish crow found on the sea board and by our great lakes, treads the wet sand with its toes in search of the small sea-food on which it lives, making with the gull which circles high above it the only living creatures in a lonely landscape. How much courage it must take to gather a meal under such adverse circumstances. The coat of the fish crow is glossier than that of the common crow and he is smaller and less heavily built.

The raven, while not common along the Atlantic States is familiar in the West. He has played a more dignified part in literature at least than the crow, yet he has quite as many bad traits.

Of the crow family which includes Jays, Magpies, Jackdaws, etc., there are about 200 members, but in the eastern part of North. America we find only about half a dozen. The resting place at night and the nesting-place are not always the same with our crows, but they use the same nest year after year. Early in the spring you will find them giving the nest a hurried cleaning, and, if out of repair, a repatching with bits of grapevine fibre, twigs, etc., before the eggs are laid therein.

Sometimes, but not often, a hawk will take possession of crow's nest and lay in it beautifully speckled eggs. Perhaps of all its enemies the crow most fears and detests a hawk. On

sighting one it gives a peculiar cry, almost a snort, and turning more hastily than you would think possible flies off to warn his comrades.

Crows are not the only birds one may find in December; an occasional sparrow-hawk, woodpeckers, nuthatches, and chickadees make a cheerful racket at odd times in the garden when they come to eat the suet, and peck at the bones which are tied on convenient trees.

Often at night you may hear the plaintive cry of the little Screech Owl quivering through the stillness, and once in a great while comes the hoot of some larger owl.
After the first snow a walk on the edge of the woods, near water, or even across a meadow will show what many of the little creatures that live hereabouts are doing. We may see the curious track of the little brown rabbit, "Molly Cotton-tail," though there are more of these to be seen on Long Island than in other parts of New York State. There also the wavering path of the field mouse, who has taken a last trip for any odds and ends of winter stores which she has previously neglected. The musk-rat, too, has made some journeys into the world from his snug quarters, and in the icy

water some beetles are circling about in what looks like a vain endeavor to keep warm. Even a butterfly may be found on the sunnyside of the wood-pile aņd it seems impossible that so frail a creature can stand the severe cold of winter, yet he will, and be one of the first signs of the spring to greet you in the boisterous and windy month of March.

## च D च F 100,000 SAMPLE PACKAGES



More careful research along the line of healthful foods has been made in the last few years than in any fifty years heretofore. The tremendous increase in the number of people afflicted with dyspepsia and all forms of stomach trouble has caused physicians to study conditions to find out what is the reason for this alarming state of affairs. It has been clearly proven that it may be directly traced to the food we eat. The system can assimilate only a limited amount of meat and when eaten in excess, our digestive organs must be affected and the most serious consequences follow. Dyspepsia cures and other patent medicines cannot reach the cause of these evils. Good digestion can only be maintained by the use of perfect food

## Read These Testimonials:

## Why He Likes malta-vita

Mr A. Bisset Thom, of Goodrich, Ont, Can., writes:
Gentlemen:-I cannot refrain from writing to compliment you Gentimen:-I cannot refrain rom writing to compliment you on bour my testimony to it as one of the very best and most
to bear
palatable foods for all who suffer from dyspepsia and indigestion. palatable foods for all who suffer from dyspepsia and indigestion, I have for two years been greatly troubled with these two ills, and have taken all sorts of medicines at various times without much but never liked any of them until seeing a packet of MALTA-VITA on che table of the hotel at which I was boarding this summer. tried it and found it not only most palatable, but highly beneffial, and from that day have never failed to have a good dish of it at
breakfast. We all like it, as you will understand when I tell you that my wife, myself and our two children get away with three packages a week. This testimonial is given by me of my own free will and accord and entirely unsolicited.

## Suffered for Years from Insomnia and Indigestion

Mr. M. M. Lewis, Contractor and Builder at Battle Creek, Mich. Writes:-"For years I have suffered from indigestion and insomnia. When your food came upon the market, I began using it with marked effect. I received almost immediate relief and it has proved permanent. I still continue to eat MALA-VITA and man and and I am working at my profession with comfort.

## Could Keep Nothing On His Stomach

 Mr. Harry P. Haugh, of Winston Salem, N. C., writes asfollows:-"I have been using MALTA-VITA for the past week with very beneficial results. Had a bad spell of indigestion and dyspepsia, and could get nothing to stay on my stomach. I am especially for its palatable taste, and the fact that it is so readily assimilated by a weak stomach." properly prepared.

What MALTA-VITA Is
MALTA-VITA is a perfect food, made from the whole wheat, thoroughly cooked, scientifically cured, perfectly malted, flaked and toasted. It is put up in convenient packages that insures its reaching the housewife in perfect condition, and is ready to serve the minute the package is opened. It requires no cooking or preparation of any kind-simply add a little cream or milk and sugar to taste. It contains all the food elements necessary to insure perfect growth, sustain life and regulate the entire system. Its flavor is that of wheat, dainty and palatable; you will relish it from the first mouthful. Hundreds of thousands of people are using it regularly and prefer it to any other single article of food.

## When MALTA-VITA Should Be Eaten

## BREAKFAST-There is no longer any need for the housewife to worry about what she

 will prepare for breakfast. No need to get up hours before breakfast time in order to have the morning meal ready. MALTA-VITA is always ready. No more nourishing article of food is known. Nothing compares with it for the morning meal. It sustains the bodily strength for the hard-working man or woman and keeps children strong and healthy.DINNER-Our up-to-date cook book, called "Seventy-two Dainty Dishes," (which we send free with every package) gives a large number of appetizing desserts that are easily prepared by combining MALTA-VITA with fruits, nuts and jellies, making different desserts that are satisfying and healthful.

SUPPER - For Supper there is nothing that induces the sound, satisfying sleep like a bowl of MALTA-VITA. Children grow robust and strong on it and prefer it to anything else for supper.

## MALTA-VITA Removes the Cause of Dyspepsia

Dyspepsia simply cannot be where MALTA-VITA is eaten. Indigestion is unknown among those who use it for breakfast and supper. If all the dyspeptics in the country would eat MALTAVITA twice a day for three months the disease would be practically unknown at the end of that time. If you're troubled with dyspepsia or indigestion or any trouble whatsoever arising from any failure of the digestive organs just try one package of MALTA-VITA. In most cases great relief is experienced at the end of the first week. MALTA-VITA tones, through the stomach, the whole system and makes life for the dyspeptic worth living.

## mALTA-VITA Prevents Dyspepsia

The weakest stomach can easily take care of and digest all the MALTA-VITA that the strongest person could eat. The scientific manner in which it is prepared relieves the stomach of a whole lot of hard work without robbing the system of the nourishment it must have. Brain workers and those who are called on to perform but little manual labor can get the best results from their brains bytassisting their stomachs as much as possible. This is just what MALTA-VITA does. No bilious attacks, no headaches, no sluggish livers are found among those who eat MALTA-VITA. Get your stomach right - eat MALTA-VITA and the brain will perform all you call on it to do.

## There Is Nothing "Just as Good" as MALTA-VITA

There is no substitute for MALTA-VITA-there is nothing just as good. When you ask your grocer for it, be sure that you get MALTA-VITA. Don't let him give you something that he claims is just as good. Try MALTA-VITA first. Have the children try it, and then you will be satisfied with nothing else. MALTA-VITA satisfies and builds up the system as nothing else can. Several tons of it are shipped from our factories every day and the demand is always on the increase. That's because it is cheap and gives satisfaction. Every customer is a pleased customer and every package we sell helps us to sell ten packages. That's why we can afford to send out so many free samples. All we ask of you is to try it-try it at our expense.

# TWENTT-EIGHT CASH PIIZES 

## There is One for You

We want your hebo in getting out our new Cook Book. We want recipes for the newest. daintiest aud best
dishes that can be made with MALTA-VITA. dishes that can be made with MALTA-VITA.
Get a package of MALTA-VTM and see what you can do: send us a recipe; we will pay you for it.

## OUR OFFER

We are giving 28 Cash Prizes for the best twenty-eight One of $\$ 10.00$; two of $\$ 5.00$ each, five of $\$ 2.00$ each; twenty of $\$ 1.00$ each. Get your friends to suggest a new dish and try it. iasm. You should be a competitor, There is a splendid chance for you to win the Ten Dollar Prize.

Send us your name and address and we will send you absolutely FREE a sample package of Malta-Vita (enough for two meals) and also a copy of our up-to-date Cook Book called "72 Dainty Dishes."
MALTA-VITA PURE FOOD CO., 254-304 Angell St., Battle Greek, Mich.

## $\frac{(x \text { Slight Mistake }}{\text { A SI }}$ <br> \section*{By A. S. Falkner}

We were smoking on the balcony of Gibson's quarters one sweltering hot day-sweltering even in the hills of northern Luzon-when somehow the conversation turned on marriage. Ramsdell had just announced his engagement to pretty Miss Jackson, and was talking the most utter rubbish about their telepathic sympathy.
' You remember the time when I was home on sick leave?" he said. "Well, I knew all the time what Nellie was doing-when she was writing to me or wishing I was with her. Wasn't that queer?

It was," we assented dryly, for we had a distinct recollection of the said Nellie's flirtation with young McGrath at that particular time, and wondered how it was that telepathy had failed to communicate that little incident to her fiance away in the States. Certainly for quite a month poor Dick McGrath had seldom been absent from her side.

Yes, " went on Ramsdell,' they say that marriages are made in Heaven, and I'm inclined to believe they are.

He lighted a fresh cigar and gazed dreamily out over the valley below. Poor old Ramsdell! He was hard hit, and no mistake.
'Humph!'" remarked the Major, from the depths of his chair. - If some marriages are made in Heaven, some are also madeelsewhere! Look at the Eversleys! Was there ever a more unhappy marriage? Look at poor old Hilton! look at Grant; look at-oh, any number of them! Their marriages weren't made in Heaven anyhow!
'Marriage is all a matter of opportunity,' muttered Beasly, whose third wife had nursed him through typhoid fever before he married her. And most of us agreed with him.

Hitherto Gibson had been silent, and Beasly remarked on it, for it was by no means a usual occurrence.
'Gibson's evolving some new theory from the depths of his inner consciousness, ' suggested Ramsdell. "Come, old man, give us the benefit of it! What's your opinion?

Gibson's gray eyes twinkled.
"Well," he answered slowly, "before I give my opinion on the subject. I should like to tell you how I met my wife. We're old friends, and I know you won't let it go any farther-she mightn't like it, perhaps.

We solemnly assured him that no torture, however horrible, should ever wring his secret from us; so, clearing his throat a trifle nervously, he began.
"I've been out here ever since the battle of Manila. During that period I've been home once, just two years ago."


GRASSHOPPER FENCE. FIELD OF BLUE CAMASSIA BEYOND.
various sizes; and a sprinkling of young and middle aged men of different professions. 'Not very interesting!' I thought. Certainly there was the pretty girl. But what was one pretty girl among so many men?
'Half an hour later" there emerged from the companion-way two figures which instantly riveted my attention. One was a girl of about twentyone, tall and slender, yet not a whit too thin; in short, her figure seemed to me perfection. Yes, I hear you, Carson, and you're quite right-this is the heroine of the piece.
'She had the delicate complexion which so often goes with beautiful auburn hair, and her eyes were graydeep and expressive and starry. Forgive my rhapsodies-they really were lovely! Her costume was very simple, but it suited her-a blue serge coat and skirt, a pale blue shirt-waist and white sailor hat and she carried a parasol and a novel. Her companion was also rather tall, but thin and nervous-looking. Her gray green eyes seemed to me to be always furtively watching the girl at her side, and her lips had a sort of nervous twitch about them. I put her down as being about thirty-six, but apart from her position beside the other, she did not interest me at all. Certainly if that was Miss Godwin she did not look crazy, but, as I reflected with a sigh, you can never tell. The sanest-looking man I ever knew now dwells
lent; still I don't envy you. Beware, Gib, beware! They say that lunatics are dreadfully jealous, and you're an awfully good-looking chap, you know!'

Here Gibson modestly remarked-,
'Mind, that was only what he said; I don't suppose he meant it really! Well, when I heard that there was to be a lunatic-however harmless -aboard I began to feel squeamish. I've been afraid of them all my life-men and women, it's all the same; they give me a sort of creepy horrid feeling all down my spine. I've heard that I was frightened by a madman when I was quite a little chap, which perhaps accounts for it, but I'd rather go into action any day than face one, so you may imagine how I felt then. However, the 'go ashore' bell rang, and I had only time to say 'Good-bye' to Hammond before he stepped into the boat to be rowed ashore. I scrutinized the faces of my fellow passengers, but I could not see any one who suggested the insane Miss Godwin to my mind. They were the ordinary class of pas-sengers-officers or speculators-two of whom appeared to be the possessors of wives and daughters, one of the last a very pretty girl of about nineteen; a few ladies who had probably left their husbands on shore; a whole family, consisting of father, mother, and half a dozen children of

Mina, that was only what he said; I don

He chuckled softly at the remembrance, while we waited breathlessly. Gibson's stories were always worth listening to.
'How time does fly! But to continue! My old friend Hammond saw me off at Manila, and just before the ship sailed he came up to me-he had been talking to the captain, whom he knewand said-
"I say, Gib, old man, here's a lark! You're going home with a lunatic-a Miss Godwin, the sister of Bob Godwin, of the Quartermaster's Department. They're sending her home in the care of a female attendant. I don't believe she's vio-



## the

 to consider what I could do to avert such a began trophe. I gazed round and at that moment the girl dropped her book. I was bound in common civility to pick it up for her, and, as I did so, I saw her name written on the fly-leaf-'Roma Goodwin,' 'Goodwin!' Hammond must have made a mistake. It was not likely that there would be a Miss Goodwin and a Miss Godwin on board, both insane and each under the charge of a female attendant. I smiled involuntarily at the idea, and handed the book to its owner. She smiled at me half shyly and murmured a gentle 'thank you.' Lunatics always smile queerly, you know!(Continued on page thirty-two.)


"Merry Christmas"

Merry Christmas now is here,<br>Brightest time of all the year,<br>Gentle words and greetings gay<br>From friend to friend on Christmas day.

Twine the Laurel and the Bay With the Hollyberries gay,
Deck the walls with garlands bright
On merry, merry Christmas night.
M. E. W.

## A HEROIN AN UNFOUGHT

 BATTLE.
## by helen holmes blake.

There was no more doubt about it. Betsy was lost. Ned had looked in the cow-yard, in the shed, and the stable, but not a sign of her did he find. He missed her from the pasture behind the house when he came home to dinner. After satisfying his hunger, he had made a thorough search of the premises. She was not there, that was certain. Where she was, Ned knew it was his duty to find out. This duty was the very thing he least wished to do.

Ned's father was a soldier. It was now a year since his regiment had gone to the Philippines. Just befure he left home he said to Ned, in a private talk:
'You're almost eleven years old, and you're big and strong enough to help your mother a great deal. I want you to do everything you can for her while I am gone. You'll be the only man about the house, and I want you to be a real man.'
Ned's ideas about what made a "real man" were rather hazy. But he knew quite well what to do to help his mother, and he lived up to his knowledge so well that Mrs. Long had written, only the day before: "Ned is a real little man; you would be delighted with him. He is grown so thoughtful and helpful."
Today Ned was to have the sharpest trial that had yet come to him. His mother had gone out to do some dressmaking, and Ned had permission to do just what he pleased all day. He had had a jolly morning with some of the boys, and right after dinner they were to go fishing-six of them-to Miller's pond, which was two miles from Ned's home. And now the cow was missing. That was a situation for a boy with a fishing excursion before him! Ned sat on the fence and thought. His hands were plunged deep in bis trousers pockets; his face was all puckered up into a frown, and he did not whistle, - a sure sign that
something was wrong. Just now he was thinking, and thinking hard, something like this:
"We can't get home from fishin' till five o'clock anyway, and mother'll want Betsy by half-past; maybe it'll take me two or three hours to find her; maybe I wouldn't find her at all tonight. Then mother'll be worried. I can't go fishin' if I wait to find that cow now. Oh! I've got to find her anyhow; there's no use talkin' 'bout that. 'Twouldu't be much like a man to go off playin' when your cow was lost. What I don't know about's whether to go and tell the boys I can't go with them, or let them wait awhile, and then go off without knowin' why I don't come. I hate to tell them! I know well enough what Dick'll say: "Let the cow go to Ballyhack, and come fishin'. You can find her all right tonight.' That's so; I might, and then, again, I mightn't. Well, here goes! I'll tell them, so they won't be losing time waiting for me. It seems too mean to'sneak out of telling them, just because I was afraid they'd stop my doing what I've got to. I'll be man enough to let them know I'm going to stay at home and hunt up the cow.'

Thereupon Ned began to whistle so loud that he did not hear the bell down the road, nor the hallo of a small boy, who was driving a cow. The boy had to repeat the hallo, and add besides, "Say, Ned, are you deaf?" before Ned paid any heed.
'Hallo!" he shouted; "where'd you find her?"
'Just beyond the turn of the road. Say, have you been all this time eating your dinner?'
"No! I'm awful glad you've found Bets, else I couldn't have gone fishin'.
'Wouldn't your mother let you?'"
'She ain't home. I wouldn't have let myself.'
'H'm!" was Dick's comment; and he added, below his breath, ' You're a brick, Ned.'

Sunday School Times.


BAYARD TAYLOR.

The beech is bare, and bare the ash, The thickets white below:
The fir-tree scowls with hoar mustache, He cannot sing for snow.

The body-guard of veteran pines, A grim battalion, stands They ground their arms, in ordered lines,
Eor Winter so commands.
The waves are dumb along the shore, The river's pulse is still;
The north wind's bugle blows no more Reveille from the hill.

The rustling sift of falling snow,
The muffled crush of leaves,
These are the sounds suppressed, that show
How much the forest grieves.
But, as the blind and vacant day Crawls to its ashy bed,
I hear dull echoes far away
Like drums above the dead.
Sigh with me, Pine, that never changed!
Thou wear'st the summer's hue; Her other loves are all estranged,
But thou and I are true!



# THE MOTHER'S MEETING 

By Victoria Wellman

## Dwell Deep.

Dwell deep! The little things that chafe and fret O waste not golden hours to give them heed! The slight,the thoughtless wrong, đo thou forget! Be self-forgot in serving other's need. Thou faith in God through love for man shall Dwell deep! Forego the pleasure if it bring Neglect of duty ; consecrate each thought Believe thou in the good of everything,
And trust that all unto the wisest end is wrought.
Bring thou this comfort unto all who weep.
Dwell deep, my soul, dwell deep!

## Busy Mothers.

That Christmas may be certain of its traditional merriment necessitates that busy mothers should be even busier, and not allowing the eleventh hour to surprise them with some unheard of, undreamed emergency, shall lessen the strain sure to be encountered by an early beginning and by not choosing elaborate gits or dinners to burden and annoy. An overburdened mother will not feel physically able to be the leader and Queen of all Christmas sports unless their "spiritual" graces exceed their physical. The dinner may be perfect, the gifts many, but on Christmas Day, if ever, what is Home without a Mother. So let one gift be-sunniness and kind words, equal parts, a home made sweet.

## Amusement of children is over esti-

 mated. Shall children be made self-
## TELL ME WHO

 NEEDS HELPNo Money Is Wanted.

To aid a sick friend, will you tell me the book he needs? Will you simply write a postal card, if I will do this?
I will mail the sick one an order-good at any drug store-for six bottles Dr. Shoop's Restorative. He may take it a month at my risk. If it
succeeds, the cost is $\$ 5.50$. If it fails, I will pay the druggist myself.
That month will show if the remedy can cure. If the sick one is then disappointed, the test shall not cost him a penny. I have furnished my Restorative to hundreds got well, and have paid for it. It is a remarkable remedy that can stand a test like that, and I have spent a lifetime on it. It is the only remedy that strengthens the inside nerves-those nerves which alone operate the
vital organs. There is positively no other way to make weak organs well. My bouk will convince you. You vill not wonder then why this offer is possible.

Simply state which
Book No. 1 on Dyspepsia,
Book No. 2 on the Heart, book you want, and dad Droop,Bo 24, Racine, Wis, Book No. 3 on the Kidneys
Book No. 4 for Women Book No. 4 for Women,
Book No. 5 for men, (sealed, Book No. 6 on Rheumatism.

Mild cases, not chronic, are often cured by one or two bottles. At all druggists.
lovers, selfish by force of their busy mother's unselfishness? Occupation can be made helpful to mother while interesting the child. It is asking much of a woman whose very life means sacrifice to amuse her lively children. If she be not imaginative or "a bookworm," and of a silent disposition, the mother would not find a quick thought or nimble tongue to make learning to dust, to darn, to straighten rooms seem a "play." But even a simple woman robbed of most of the refinements of life can speak coaxing words, use praise freely, and call her little helpers "mother's fairies." Self-conceit is a great fault of course; but it finds good use as a virtue and the little boy of five whose "muscle" and height are examined gravely, and measured with care, whose speed in clearing out cellar rubbish, running errands, gathering kindlings, and tugging "big, big scuttles of coal," becomes quite "conceited" over his strength perhaps but-it is harmless conceit and quite balanced by the honest pride he feels as" "Mother's big manly boy." And an occasional fat cookie or a treat which touches his sensitive spot, the stomach, "made on purpose because he helped me today." will be remembered when an old man.
To keep them occupied just before Christmas is a good plan to secure time and liberty for the mother. Have you, like so many housewives, a lot of recipes cut nut and which you mean for a scrapbook sometime? Give them to your twelve year old daughter, teach her to sort them out in classes, and how to make a good paste, and give to her an old book, have her write in it "Scrapbook Recipes," and tell her you desire to see her ideas worked out, and that she is to be slow but neat as this same book shall one day be her own, after you are gone. Most girls will take proud interest in the work.
Set the "big boys" making gift scrapbooks evenings, cutting out comical pictures and poems and stories, and arranging them in books to be given to hospitals. (It never hurts boys to be made to think tender thoughts-nor girls to be taught order). And the little folks will be just as anxious to be occupied and unless very little, can knit on spools gay lampmats or driving lines. Wee, wee, toddlers can follow example of "helping" and wipe "dishes" in a wonderful innocent belief of being necessary to their mother, even
though she slyly sends back these dishes again and again. It never helpful. Busy Mother may smile at the results and find her holiday duties do not exhaust her. In such homes the very atmosphere breathes "Helpfulness.

Evil is wrought by want of thought
As well as want of heart.

## Mother's Problems.

Mrs. A. R.-Michigan. Try this plan. Use plenty of boxes as home made furniture for keeping the clothing of many children laid away neatly between seasons requires endless drawer-room. Yes, 'tis true and you have the right feeling. Better have less fine dresses and more neat underclothes, less gay carpets and more single beds and bedding. Yet again, as you say, to not waste and to keep all these things ready to hand means order and that means a place. The dearest little shirt waist boxes, shoeboxes, window boses with hinged covers, are now common and in stores cost too much I think. They are easily home made and denims are my favored upholstery stuff. Let me describe a "soiled clothes box." It is plain white wood shellaced over, having holes bored in an ornamental design for ventilation, and the top is cushioned. Inside is a laundry pad and pencil. It is so nice, too, to have wardrobes if closets are scarce. And for the bedding, to build in shelves to form a sort of huge chest in the closet is very convenient. Let each child have its own clothes by themselves and insist on order.
Mrs. T. W.-Ohio. Make a Surprise Cake. Any good loaf cake will do and in it hide small treasures; tiny dolls, thimble, ring, bangles, money, etc. Color the icing and lay a green wreath around. Make a pasteboard cover over a tubful of saw dust and in this huge "pie" have gifts with attached strings hanging out and let the little guests enjoy pulling the plums out of their Christmas Pie.

There is a sight all hearts beguiling-
A youthful mother to her infant smiling,
Who with spread arms and dancing feet,
A cooing voice, returns its answer sweet.

## The Young Mother.

Dress becomes an early thought, it being needless and absolutely criminal to the child if the mother wishes it to be healthy, to stay shut in from the pure outdoor air, especially in winter. Any mother can for ten cents secure a pattern for a maternity dress by using Vick's Magazine offers of patterns, and I am willing to use my time to suggest several aids to good appearance which will assist the average woman very much.

Beware of overwork. Beware of that new strength and ambition-for it is new and not for your material gain-but the child's inheritance. (Continued on page thirty-four.)

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A Matter of Selection.
Said a little vulgar girl who was sneering at another
In accents that were very far from mild,
You ain't got no father, you ain't got no mother, You ain't nothin' but a horrid 'dopted child!'"
"I'm quite as good as you," came the answer from the other,
"I was carefully selected from a lot;
But only look at you-your father and your mother
Had to keep you if they wanted to or not!"

## About That Parrot Again.

It is not strange if you can scarcely believe the good luck so easy to win by joining in our Parrot Contest. Your Aunt Stella herself craves to be a girl again just to have such a chance as is now yours. Just think of all the points; not alone the fine offer of a fine Polly and a valuable book called
'Feathered Pets,"-something which should prove to all my readers that it is a bit of good fortune to be a subscriber to Vick's Magazine and receive a share of its honors-but our generous publisher adds a touch of comfort for all and makes it impossible to lose by your attempt to win "Our Polly:" Every boy and every girl gets a nice premium even if Polly never becomes theirs. Now isn't that fair? And you must hurry along, children and young people, and get the work started.
So.little to do! Only send your name at once saying you wish to compete for the Parrot. Even for this you are paid with just the loveliest book! It is called a "Catalogue" but there are surprising things shown in its pages. My boy readers - will be showing it to all their chums. My girls will be saying, "Mamma, isn't hat just grand!" It surprised me,
and I am quite used to interesting books. And next, the two subscriptions, and one may easily be your mother's; and then-just keep a sharp eye for stories or sketches about birds. If it can be cut out send anything you think is interesting. If it is in something not to be cut, copy it. Or write of something odd about birds which you have noticed. Send all you can find, as often as you please, and all good ones will be for "Aunt Stella's Scrapbook.

Once more let me advise you. Ask of Vick's their "clubbing" prices on some good magazine about birds. It will pay you to look over September and October numbers and send for sample copies of the maga-
zines I named for you; for in zines I named for you; for in
them will be many charming stories about birds. The best story or sketch or the most interesting collection sent in during our Contest will win the Polly. Mind you, it is no cross, hateful, noisy bird either, but a real treasure.

A Birthday Rhyme for December.
If cold December gave you birth, The month of snow and ice and mirth, Place on your hand a Turquoise blueSuccess will bless whate'er you do.

Christmas Fairies.
They lived not very far apart, that is to say, by road; but though the Benedicts lived in a cozy stone mansion at the top of the hill which was such a grand and rather dangerous coasting place each winter, and the Stevenses had a small brown wooden house at the
foot, there really seemed miles and miles of distance between them, at least so sad little Sarah Stevens always thought as she drudged away, too busy even to attend school or Sunday School very often and too tired to "dress up" if she had had more than one dress.

Amelia Benedict was not vain,-she was simply thoughtless. To her mind it seemed queer everyone did not live in fine stone houses, with pretty warm bedrooms and a conservatory of flowers. She had nearly everything in life too-yet, shall we call her happy? No, for she knew Motherdie was very liable to die suddenly, and her father was always grave. as good hearted doctors well may be from seeing so much misery. It never seemed clear to Amelia why Sarah was dressed so "slouchy," and why didn't she play more with other girls? Sarah, however, was not too busy to
think why all was so different. If Daddy had not had so much trouble they could have been comfortable and mamma need not go out cleaning and cooking; but there, no use to cry! Probably this minute that three year old Wallie was head first in the swilltub or running away to the woods. So Sarah set her little twelve year old shoulders to the heavy burden and helped as no one realized save her worn out mother, for alas! daddy had been drinking for a year. There was plenty of work with six younger children and Chester was, well, the best we can say about him is he was "lazy," so lazy that though a strong boy and only a year younger than Sarah, he was too lazy to gather kindlings, feed the hens, or pick fruit.

Amelia's mother had a sweet face; the Irish cook said, "Sure, an she's a saint already." Just before Christ-
(Continued on page thirty-five)


## General, A Cbristmas Story

## BY MARY E. WILKINS

## 

Eugene was named after his youngest uncle, on his mother's side, but everybody called him "General." First it had been "Gene," but as his masterly character developed, it became "General." When the neighbors saw him coming, usually at the head of a small troop of his brothers, and sisters, and friends, they said: "There's General Newman." As a rule they finished with an indulgent chuckle, for General was a favorite. Everybody agreed that he was a good boy, and very smart. He did an errand as if he were a peer of the realm, and, with infinite condescension, he pocketed his penny in payment, as if it were a gratuity. But he did errands willingly and well, and while he made others obey, he never disobeyed himself.

For all he's so up and comin' he minds me better than any of them," his mother often remarked.

General was the eldest of five children, three girls and two boys. His father was dead; his mother, Mrs. Abby Newman, supported the famliy by working a small farm. She kept one hired man, and worked herself like a slave. With great economy and toil she managed to keep her family in comfort, and she was determined that the children should have good educations. General was large

## I Will Cure You of

## RHEUMATISM

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- After 2,000 experiments, $I$ have learned how to cure Rheumatism. Not to turn bony joints into flesh again ; that is impossible. But I can cure the disease always, at any stage, and forever.
I ask for no money. Simply write me a postal and I will send you an order on your nearest druggist for six bottles Dr. Shoop's Rheumatic Cure, for every druggist keeps it. Use it for a month and, if it succeeds, the cost is only $\$ 5.50$. If it fails, I will pay your druggist myself.
I have no samples, because any medicine that can affect Rheumatism quickly must be drugged to the verge of danger. I use no such drugs, and it is folly to take them. You must get the disease out of the blood.
My remedy does that,even in the most difficult, ebstinate cases. No matter how impossible this seems to you, I know it and I take the risk. I have cured tens of thousands of cases in this way, and my records show that 39 out of 40 who get those six bottles pay gladly. I have learned that people in general are honest with a physician who cures them. That is all I ask. If I fail I don't expect a penny from you.
Simply write me a postal card or letter. I will send you my book about Rheumatism, and an order for the medicine. Take it for a month, as it won't harm you any way. If it fails, it is free, and I leave the decision with you. Address Dr. Shoop, Box 424, Racine, Wis.
Mild cases, not chronic, are often cured by one or two bottles. At all druggists.
and strong for his age, and many of the neighbors thought she was foolish not to put him to work; but she was resolute. 'He's goin' to know something," she declared, "and he helps a good deal out of school.'
General, ever since he was ten had risen in the morning at five o'clock, and assisted the hired man with the barn chores, drawn the water, and made the kitchen fire. All the Newman children were trained to work, and they accomplished a good deal before they set off for school-washed, brushed, and tidy.
The new teacher came in the fall when Eugene was nearly fourteen. She was a pretty girl; her name was Aurelia May, and she had many new ideas. Among others was the Christmas tree. There had never been a Christmas tree in Number Five School, which was located on the outskirts of the village, among the scattered farming part of the population. There had been a Christmas tree ins the Sunday school, but never one in the day school.

When Miss Aurelia May announced that this year there would be a tree on Christmas Eve (the Sunday school tree was to be on Christmas night), there was much excitement, not only among the students, but their parents. The mothers met in each others' sitting rooms and kitchens, and talked a good deal. Some of them declared that a tree in the Sunday school was enough, and all they could manage. "It took all the butter money I had saved last year for Christmas," declared one woman, and the others echoed her. Finally, however, the pretty school teacher carried the day.
'I declare I hated to say anything, she was so set on it," said Mrs. John Sargent. The teacher boarded at Mrs. John Sargent's, and little Lottie Sargent adored her.

But there was one woman who never abandoned her position, and she was the General's mother. Mrs. Newman had said at first, she had told the neighbors, and the teacher so, and she had told her children so, that she could and would do nothing about the Christmas tree. If it had been an apple year, I might have managed it, but it ain't an apple year, and I haven't got enough money for another Christmas tree unless I run in debt or mortgage the place," she said, can manage to give you children some useful things, that you really need, and I'd have to get anyway, on the Sunday school tree, but as for doing anything about the day school, I can't do it, and I don't want to hear another word about it. I have enough to con-
tend against without being teased to do something I can't do.'

The younger children pouted, and little Sallie and Henry openly sobbed, but General only looked thoughtful.
"May I use my bank money?" he asked finally.

You can't have more than fifty cents, for you opened your bank last fourth of July," the mother answered.
'Can I have what is in it?'
"Yes, if you want to," she replied, grudgingly. "You ought to use the money, however, to buy shoes; but you can have it.'

General's face cleared.
right," be said. "Guess I can do something.
His second sister, Addie, pulled his sleeve, when his mother's back was turned. "What be you goin' to do?" she whispered.

You jest wait an' see," replied her brother mysteriously

You goin' to get presents for all of us?"
'I reckon so.
'For Tommy Jones, and Lottie, and Maria Dodd, and Willy Lapham, d-'

## 'Guess so

'What?"
"You jest wait.
General was as important and secretive during the three weeks before Christmas as any commander before a strategic move upon the enemy. His brothers and sisters watched, but they could discover nothing. General was known to make several visits to the store, but they could find out nothing that he purchased except paper and string. They found rolls of nice white paper, and brown paper, and various colored balls of cord; in his little hair trunk which had belonged to his grandfather, and in which he kept his treasures. "Its to tie up the presents," they said to one another, and their expectations grew.

Gradually it became noised about the school that General Newman was goin' to give splendid presents to a lot of children and his popularity was on the increase. He had so much deference that his head might have been turned, if he had not been a pretty stanch, honest little boy.

General worked hard helping the teacher, and what was more, he made the others work-not a boy dared shirk when General's eyes were upon him. Even the teacher began to marvel at his power orer his mates. "I declare, I believe that boy can make the others mind better than I can," she said to Mrs. Sargent, with whom she boarded.
'He's an awful smart boy,'" agreed Mrs. Sargent.

On Christmas Eve the students and their big brothers and sisters, and their parents, assembled in the schoolhouse. Even Mrs. Abby Newman was there in her old best black silk The children had been so happy about it all that she had not the heart to stay away. Then, too, she had much pride in her eldest son, and curiosity

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KNIVES a BOTTOM PRRCES

as to what he was going to do. She was conscious of a great faith in him. "He's an awful smart boy," she told herself.

Indeed, that evening sitting at his desk in the evergreen-trimmed schoolroom, General looked handsomer and smarter than ever. His fair hair curled aggressively on top, his blue eyes were brilliant; there was not a shade of doubt or anxiety in his face. He looked confident of all that Christmas or life might bring him. Mrs. Newman felt herself fairly glowing with pride as she gazed at him.

The beautiful lighted tree stood on the platform, and young man named Abner Whittemore - he was said to admire the teacher-was dressed in a buffalo coat, to personate. Santa Claus and distribute the presents.

The names of the Newman children were called over and over-Miss Ruth Newman, Miss Sallie D. Newman, Master Henry Perkins Newman, Miss Addie Newman, Master Eugene Newman. Names also of a large number of the scholars who were particular friends of theirs were frequently repeated. They all marched away from the tree with jubilant faces. However, the faces changed when they came to examine their treasures more closely. They were very neat little packges, tied up in fresh papers, with bright colored cords. They looked like boxes of various shapes, and sizes. The students who had these boxes regarded them with expressions of mingled wonder and dismay. Not one was untied. Gradually the news of something which was written or rather printed, on the packages, spread around. "Have you seen those funny presents General Newman has been giving?" everbyody asked of everybody else. This was printed on the packages, very plainly:
' Don't you open this till next Fourth of July. If you do, look out.
"E. NEWMAN."

Mrs. Abby Newman stood apart, talking to the minister's wife and the teacher, and knew nothing about these warning notes until little Sallie came crying to her with her unopened present, and begged that she wouldn't let Genie scold her if she took the string off.

Then Mrs. Newman examined the package and the inscription with amazement. "They're all just like that." sobbed Sallie, "and they can't open them till the Fourth of July, he says.'
"I'm goin' to see what all this foolishness means!" declared Mrs. Abby Newman.

When General looked up and saw his mother's face, his heart sank. The other boys looking on, saw him quail before the small, weary-looking woman. "Eugene Newman, what does all this mean?"' she demanded. The room was quite still. The crowd about them became noiselessly augmented. Everybody came tiptoeing up. The children stood gaping with eyes of innocent wonder and curiosity.
"Eugene!" said Mrs. Newman. The boy choked and gasped.
"Eugene, tell me this minute, what is in those packages!

The general hung his head; his candid forehead was red to the roots of this curly hair. Then suddenly he faced his mother, and them all, with his honest, confident look. He had done nothing to be ashamed of.
"What is in them?" asked his mother. "Nothin' but wood," plied General Newman.

## Wood!’

"Wood!" echoed the others.
'Yes, it's nothin' but wood in all of 'em," proclaimed General, clearly.
'Eugene Newman!" gasped his mother. Her face was blazing with mortification. Was this her wonderful, smart boy? She realized how desirable it would be to sink through the floor away from all these curious eyes. Then suddenly the boy came to the rescue.
"There's somethin'
wood," he admitted with reluctance, Poor Eugene in all of them had given. yet as one who must clear his honor from imputation.
"What?" cried his mother eagerly.
"My note," replied General, and he held his head high.
"Your note?", his mother gasped feebly.
'Yes, ma'am.
His mother made a clutch at one of the packages, which a little boy mear her held, and tore off the wrapping and there was a nice little block of wood, and thereon printed, after the form in the arithmetic
"For value received I promise to pay to Willy Lapham or order, six months and ten days from date, one good top. "EUGENE NEWMAN.'

Then Mrs. John Sargent caught her Lottie's package, and opened it, and there was the same thing, only in that Eugene Newman promised to pay Lottie Sargent one doll with light hair, and others were opened, and they were the same with a difference.
for lack of presents, his promissory
"I'd like to know where you expected to get the money," his mother inquired, sharply.

Uncle Eugene said he was going to make me a present of ten dollars the Fourth when I was fourteen years old, and I'm goin' to give every one of 'em,'" he replied sturdily.
Then a faint cheer went up, and some of the women wiped their eyes.

Mrs. Abby Newman began to feel that perhaps she had no need to be ashamed of her boy after all.

General Newman had so many presents on the Sunday school tree the next evening that he was nearly overcome. He could not believe his eyes when he saw the jack-knives, the tops, the sled, and the books. Every one of the friends to whom he had presented his promissory note had been furnished with a present to hang on the tree for him, but he never dreamed why.

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# Confections For Christmas <br> By Mrs.G.T. Drennan 

EDITOR'S NOTE-Mrs. Moore, who so ably conducted our Household Department for so long, having taken charge of our Nature Study Page, Mrs. Drennan, the well known writer, has consented to write on household topics, this being her first paper of the series. In January. Mrs. Drennan will discuss "Doughs and Batters."

Sweet-meats of home manufacture are more wholesome than those of commerce. Giving the benefit of the doubt to the delicious confections offered for sale, in that they may be made of quite as good material as our own, and withal, as well proportioned as to ingredients, yet there is the full assurance, beyond a doubt, that for our own family, for guests and as gifts to be sent to friends and neighbors there is in those we carefully concoct nothing but the most approved ingredients.
Sugar is in three forms for making candies that are essentially different in appearance and taste. Powdered sugar as fine as flour, granulated, cutloaf and brown sugar make different kinds of candies. Granulated and cut-loaf are the same quality and may be called and used as the same sugar. There is one item in favor of cut-loaf sugar well to note before beginning to make Christmas sweets, and that is, that the whites of eggs make better souffle, meringue and icing when the lumps of sugar are added by handsful at a time, beating steadily until the whites froth and the lumps dissolve. For six whites begin with six lumps of sugar and beat or whip until the sugar begins to melt and the whites to froth. Add more and continue until there are two pounds of sugar to six whites. The meringue, souffle or icing will then be so stiff it can be shaped with a spoon, and in baking, will not fall. A very slow heat, almost none at all, is required for confections of cut-loaf sugar and whites of eggs. They require to dry, rather than to bake.
Eclatres. -These are spoonfuls of the foregoing flavored to taste with vanilla, chocolate, or lemon and colored with fruit coloring if preferred, dried in the oven on oil or parrafine paper. The eclaires may be shaped round with depressions in the eentre, which may have jelly, seeded raisins, or chopped nutmeats pressed into place.

## candies.

Cream Candy is rich made of thick sweet cream in the proportion of one cup of cream to four cups of brown sugar; butter the size of an egg; two pounds of pecan meats chopped and one teaspoonful of vanilla. Cook the cream sugar and butter until it will harden when dropped into cold water. Remove from the stove and stir until it creams or turns sugary adding the vanilla and the nut-meats during the process. Make into round flat cakes on parafine paper. When cold run a knife under each and lay on fancy dishes. This cream candy has the delicious taste of co.sked, but granulated sugar. For want of a
better term it is called sugary candy, every morsel of it literally melting in the mouth.

Pulled Sugar Candy.-Every reader has heard or read of "candy pullings," but not every one has happily participated. A candy pulling is delectable; young folks enjoy it to the full. It is a thing of promise and fruition for let it be understood that when sugar candy is made as it should be and pulled, the realization is one of the choicest confections to be had. Sometimes it is a trouble to boil and pull candy when fondant is so easily made into extensive varieties of sweets; but a party of young people find it a happy passtime. Nothing like an old-fashioned candy pulling for fun and frolic-and nothing better than the candy when pulled twisted and chopped into wisps. This is the simple formula: Two pounds of sugar; one halfpint of water; two tablespoonfuls of vinegar; one tablespoonful of butter. Boil these ingredients together stirring them when the water is poured over the sugar, butafter boiling begins do not stir. Thirty minutes will cook the candy. Pour into large dishes greased with butter and as soon as cool enough to handle pull, beginning with a small piece between the fingers and adding to it until it takes both hands to manage the rope of candy. Two persons standing near and opposite each other can pull together lapping the pulled ends rapidly from hand to hand. The candy must be as white as the sugar (clarified or cut-loaf) it is made of and spongy and light. Draw into long thin ropes double and twist and chop into one or two inch pieces on a broad flat dish.

Macaroons.-Cocoanut, chocolate, or almonds may be used. The whites of four eggs and equal quantities of either grated cocoanut blanched and pounded almonds or chocolate and powdered sugar. Work well together with a spoon. Dip the tips of the fingers into water and work the macaroons into balls about the size of a hickory nut. Lay them an inch apart on paper and bake or dry in an oven barely warm.
Candy Without Cooking. - Make any quantity desired but proportion the ingredients and manipulate as follows: Beat the whites of three eggs with two tablespoonsful of confectioner's sugar for several minutes. Continue adding sugar and beating until one cup and a half of sugar have been used. Gradually beat in one tablespoonful of lemon juice. When of the proper consistency the candy dough can be rolled out on a marble pastry slab and cut into fancy shapes or rolled into balls. Nut meats, seeded raisin, seeded ánd (Continued on page thirty.)

## Little Eyes That Smile in Mine.

Little eyes that smile in mine, Without your tender light
This world would be so dark a place No sun could make it bright.
Little hands that cling to mine, Your power who can guess To lighten heavy burdens, To comfort and to bless?

Written for Vick's Family Magazine by

Little feet that follow mine With eager footsteps light,
Along life's rugged pathway Oh may I guide aright.
Little heart that beats on mine And keeps it warm and true, Love of gold and glory pales Beside my love for you. Tabel Corn U. Matson.

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## JOHN ELLIOTT MORSE.

Here is a man whose heart and soul are in the garden, so to speak. Through long years of experience and experiment he has gained an ex tensive knowledge of gardening in all its branches. Mr. Morse's mother was a resident of our beautiful "Flower City" (Rochester) in her childhood and his father was also a native of the Em-


JON ELLIOT MORSE
pire State. The subject of our sketch was born in Michigan and from a boy has loved the outdoor life and studied carefully the problems rising from his work until today he is recognized as an authority on all subjects pertaining to the garden. He has written books on different phases of garden work and has contributed valuable articles to some of the best publications. Mr. Morse's enthusiasm for the garden knows no bounds and he has an intense desire to help others to make the best of their advantages in this direction. We regard ourselves as particularly fortunate in securing the services of Mr . Morse to conduct our garden department. Anyone who will read his articles each month in Vick's will argee with us.

Mr. Morse is particularly anxious to be of assistance to our readers and will cheerfully answer questions from actual subscribers if an addressed and stamped envelope is sent.

We are pleased to present a likeness of Mr. Morse herewith. Take a good look at his frank, open countenance and you will surely remark "there is an honest man.

It is just this kind of able, honorable and enthusiastic people whom we aim to secure for all of our departments. We are striving in every way to maintain the high standard which Vick's has always set up for practical, reliable and helpful information in the different branches of horticulture and assure our readers that they can depend upon the information contained in our columns.

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## CHRISTMAS SECRETS.



Secrets big and secrets small, On the eve of Christmas; Such keen ears has ev'ry wall That we whisper, one and all, On the eve of Christmas.

As you're coming up the stair, On the eve of Christmas, Watch each footstep with great care, Secrets sweet are hidden there On the eve of Christmas.

Secrets upstairs, secrets down,
On the eve of Christmas;
Papa brings them from the town, Wrapped in papers stiff and brown On the eve of Christmas.

But the secret best of all-
On the eve of Christmas,
Steals right down the chimney tall, Fills our stockings great and small, On the eve of Christmas.

## Christmas Like It Used To Be. By Nixon Waterman.

Christmas like it used to be? That's the thing would gladden me, Kith and kin from far and near Joining in the Christmas cheer. Oh, the laughing girls and boys! Oh , the feasting and the joys! Wouldn't it be good to see Christmas like it used to be?
Christmas like it used to be, Snow a-bending bush and tree. Bells a-jingling, down the lane; Cousin John and Jim and Jane, Sue and Kate and all the rest Dressed up in their Sunday best, Coming to that world of glee, Christmas like it used to be.
"It came upon the midnight clear, The glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth, To touch their harps of gold; 'Peace on the earth, good will to men,' From heaven's all gracious King; The world in solemn stillness lay, To hear the angels sing."

Christmas like it used to be, -
Been a long, long time since we Wished (when Santa Claus should come),
You a doll and I a drum, You a book and I a sled Strong and swift and painted red, Oh, that day of jubilee! Christmas like it used to be.
Christmas like it used to be, It is still as glad and free, And as fair and full of truth, To the clearer eyes of youth, Could we gladly glimpse it through Eyes our children's children do In their joy-time, we would see Christmas like it used to be.

The whole wordl is a Christmas tree, And stars its many candles be; Oh sing a carol joyfully

The world's great feast in keeping. For once on a December night, An angel held a candle bright, And led three wise men by its light

To where a child was sleeping. Selected.


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## December, 1902

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## .

 Wyom.

The making of gifts has been discussed pro and con from time immemurial and our impression is that more people will make gifts during the holiday season of 1902 than in any previous year. It is not necessary to make expensive gifts as it is the spirit of friendship shown by the giver that is most appreciated. A suitable book always makes an acceptable present and a yearly subscription to a magazine or periodical an ideal one, as your friend is reminded of you each week or month during the year when the publication comes to hand.
I like the improved form of your magazine very much, and do
not want to be without it.-Mrs. O. W. W., Hansen, Nevada.
The habit of reading, if directed in proper channels, is one which brings profit as well as pleasure. There never was a time, when good books and periodicals could be obtained so cheaply as today. As evidence of this, look over our wonderful clubbing offers on pages 22 and 23 and our list of books on page 31.
Instead of spending the long winter evenings eating apples, telling stories or playing games, order some of this reading matter and improve these precious hours to prepare for a more prosperous season next year.
I would not be without your magazine. I only wish I had
time to go around and canvass for it, so that it would reach all time to go a round and canvass for it, so that it
the homes of this place.-J. D., Tooele, Utah.

All re-unions, whether in the form of family gatherings, annual neighborhood or town pienics, semi-centennial or centennial celebrations, have their pleasant features, but the more recently inaugurated obsérvance of "old home"-week seems to embody in it all that tends to make the other gatherings delightful.

Many of those who have been long absent from the place of their birth, or where their early years were.spent, look back upon it as the pleasantest spot on earth, and, through all vicissitudes, cherish the hope of once more returning to it. From year to year the projected visit is perhaps postponed, waiting for the more convenient season when everything will be favorable, and which generally never comes. To such, "old home"" week appeals with irresistible strength, for the thought that there will be no one to welcome them often deters from revisiting it those who have been long away from their native place. "Old home" week brings so many back at the same time that it has an additional attraction to those who have been absent for years.

But the pleasure and profit of the occasion are not by any means confined to the returning wanderers. A project in which all the people have an interest and take part is of invaluable benefit to the community, directly and indirectly. It always goes to show what can be done by united effort, tends to abolish the unreasonable class prejudices which sometimes exist, and induces a feeling of
good-fellowship and mutual interest both pleasant and profitable. When the people have worked together in one enterprise, they are much more likely to undertake others of a public nature which require concerted action.

Often, too, some of the visitors who have been prospered in worldly affairs are moved to do something for their native place, such as contributing money to improve the cemetery, found a library, build a town hall, or for some other public enterprise; but this should be done spontaneously, not from solicitation.
The movement is spreading and we hope that before many years every community will follow the example of some of the eastern states, notably New Hampshire and Massachusetts, set apart some time in the summer or fall, a day or two or a week, in which all old residents will be welcomed, bonfires built on the hills, meetings held for reminiscences and general rejoicing.
"There is no place like the old place, Where you and I were born; Where we lifted first our eyelids on the Splendors of the morn."
"There are no times like the old timos, They shall never be forgot; There is no place like the old place,
Keep green the dear old spot.'

## Our Prize Contests

A large number have already sent in articles and stories,
Send yours as soon as prepared. You can surely write an interesting and profitable earticle or story for one of our mauy ontests. Read full particulars and instructions below, NO. 1.-SHORT STORIES.
 fifth and sixth, 85.00 each; the 7 th, 8 th, 9 th, 10 th and 11 th, $\$ 3.00$
each. The stories must be of pure moral character and must not each, The stories must be or pure moral character and must not
contain less than 2,000 or more than 5,000 words. We prefer to have scenes laid either in England or America.

> NO. 2.-CHILDREN'S STORLES.
 each. Stories must be suited for children between the ages of six each. slve years. We prefer them about animals, flowersor birds and such as will tend to make them kind to pets and animals, or give them an interest in studying nature.

NO. 3-FLORAL ARTICLES.
FIrst Prize $\$ 15.00$. SECOND PRIZE $\$ 10.00$. Third $\$ 5.00$. The 4th, 5 th, 6 th, 7 th and 8 th $\$ 2.00$ each; the 9 th, 10 th, $11 \mathrm{th}, 12 \mathrm{th}, 13 \mathrm{th}$
$14 \mathrm{th}, 15 \mathrm{th} 16 \mathrm{th}, 17 \mathrm{th}$ and $18 \mathrm{th} \$ 1.00$ each. Articles may contain
from 200 to 1,000 words. Must from 200 to 1,000 words. Must be concisely tord and must be plain
and practical. They may treat of one or more house plants, garden fowers or shrubs suitable for any month of the year. Articles
1,000 words may be told in story form if you prefer.
Frrst Prize $\$ 5.00$. Skcond Prize $\$ 2.50$. Third Prize $\$ 1.50$; and
25 additional prizes of a year's subscription each. If you. know of 25 additional prizes of a year's subscription each. If you know of
some easy way to do a certain kind of work or any valuable point some easy way to do a certain kind of work or any valuable point
about housework, arrangement of furniture, making of clothing, about housework, arrangement of furniture, making of clothing,
care of children, etc., etc., tell it for the benefit of our women read-
ers, care or you do not feel that you can write it up suitably, give us
ers. If
the facts and we will arrange them. It is information-practical the facts and we will arrange them. It is inform
points, that we want,
NO. 5.-GAR DEN POINTS.
FIrst Prize 45.00. SEcOND Prize \$2.50. Third Prize $\$ 1.50$; and have made a great success of some particular thing in your garden this year, tell us about it. Tell it in as few words as possible.
give the prizes for the best and most helpful information.
NO. 6.-POULTRY HELPS.
FIRST PRIZE \$5.00. SECOND PRIZE \$2.50. Third $\$ 1.50$ and 25
additional prizes of year's subscription each. If you know some feature of poultry keeping or raising which would be helpful to ou readers, write it out and send it in. Tell it briefly and plainly. It may treat of any feature ond
FIRst Prize \$5.00. SECOND PRIZE \$2.50. Third Prize \$1.50 and 25 additional prizes of a years subscription each. Poems must no
be longer than seven verses of eight lines each, short ones ar be longer than seven verses of elght indes each, short one
preferred. May be on any subject suitable for the magazine. NO. 8.-PHOTOGRAPHS.
Frrst Prize $\$ 5.00$. SECOND PRIEE $\$ 2.50$. Third Prize $\$ 1.50$ and 25
additional prizes of a year's subscription each. Photographs must additional prizes of a year's subscription each. Photographs must
be those taken by amateurs and may be of any subject either out of be those taken by amateurs and may be of any subject either out of
doors or inside, if suitable for publication in the magaziner Write
Wame and address on back of photograph and if you wish it returndoors ond add, ifss on back of photograph and if you wish it returned send postage for that purpose.
DIRECTIONS. Manuscript must be plainly written and on
one side of paper only. Your letter must be addressed to PRIzw one side of paper only. Your letter must be addressed to Prize
DEPARTMENT, VICK's FAMILY MAAAZINE, 62 STATE ST. ROCHDEPARTMENT, VICK N. Ynd the numider of the contest plainly mariked on
Este intside of the envelope. At the top of the first page of Mss.
the outsid the outside of the envelope. At the top of the first page of Mss. If you desire Mss. returned if not successful in winning a prize,
sufticient postage must be enclosed for its return. Mss, should be sufficient postage must be enclosed for its return, Mss, shou
sent in as soon as possible to give time to revien carefully. The contest will close March 25, 1903.
CONDITIONS. We reserve the right to buy at our regular
cash rates any Mss. submitted. We desire only practical and helpful matter submitted, and to avoid mere trifies entering the contest
we have made a condition that ail entering the contest must we have made it a condition that ail entering the contest must
enclose 50 cents for a subscription to the magazine either for them selves or another person. Those desiring to submit more than one article may submit three for every two subscriptions sent. A
three-year subscription at our special rate of $\$ 1.00$ will be counted three-year subscription at our special rate or subscriptions. All conditions are plainly given in this announcement and we cannot enter into correspondence with
those desiring to enter the contest.


Notes for the Month

See that the fences are all in good order, where there are any trees or other things that stock may injure It is said that "the cow is the nurseryman's best friend," because she makes places for much more that he has to sell. Begin early to plan for the next spring's work. Decide what should be planted and where it shall be set so that there need be no hasty decisions to make when the time comes. Send for the catalogues of several good nurseries, that you may compare prices and study the varieties during stormy days and long winter evenings.

There will be new tools needed, in all probability, another year, and these should be determined upon in good season. It may be that the manufacturers or dealers will be rushed with orders, so that it will be difficult or impossible for you to get yours filled when you want it, if you defer giving it until close to the time the tools are needed. It is a satisfaction to both parties to have no hurrying or disappointments.

Fix up the old tools in good time, too. There is always something out of order, and a few hours spent in repairing while the time is not so precious as when everything is rushing one is worth more than we are apt to think. Imagine the disgust that is likely to be felt by yourself and the hands next spring or summer when the plow is found to need a new handle or the single tree requires a hasty trip to the shop in town before the work can go on as planned.

Another matter that should be all studied out and prepared for in winter time is the whole subject of spraying. The latest State and Government bulletins and the rural papers should be procured and read critically, to make sure that the work planned is up-to-date. There is something new being learned by all of the scientists every year. With rare exceptions they are ready and anxious to give the public the benefit of their discoveries, and we are to blame if we do not know what they are. Get the ingredients long before they are needed, so far as is possible. Some of them will keep from year to year.

## Pruning Grape Vines.

December is a good time to prune the grape vines. Those who are in the business of growing grapes know when and how to prune, and what I may say is not to them, but, there are
many who have only a few vines that may not know about this matter.
The time to prune grape vines is not limited to early spring, although that is the time when it is usually done. As soon as the leaves fall the vines are in proper condition. By December the most of the Fall work is over and the severe cold weather has not come on, except in the extreme north. Even there it is well. in some sections, to have the vines pruned, laid down and covered with earth, that they may pass the winter in safety. In any case it is so much done and out of the way when spring opens.
The methods of pruning should be in accord with the location of the vines, their intended use and the species and varieties to be pruned. If it should be the Concord, or almost any kind commonly grown in the regions east of the Rocky Mountains, some system of training that admits of rather long bearing canes is the most suitable. Nature's effort is to have very long vines, reaching far from the ground and with but little fruit on them. For purposes of shade, mainly, as is sometimes wanted, there should be much less cutting back than in a vineyard, where fruit is the main object. No special style need be used, in such a case, but the common sense of the primer can be the guide.
In small vineyards a trellis, made onf a definite plan and to suit a particular system of training is generally made and in use. There are, commonly two or three wires, stapled to posts, the top one being about five feet from the ground. This is a good trellis and by no means a costly one. The Kniffin arm and spurs or fan systems are the most common styles of training. Anyone who is interested enough to plant and care for a vineyard, even though it be a small one. is apt to have adopted some plan and studied into the intricacies. To such I have only to say, do not be too severe with the vines. Those who have not decided upon any system will do well to lose no time in coming to a decision. There are good books on the subject, giving the necessary details.

A very simple plan, and one that almost anyone can follow with little instruction is the fan system. It resembles the ribs of a fan or the fingers of the open hand extended. The branches are simply trained in a spreading fashion from where they
join the main stalk to the wires above The ends of some may extend to the top wire and others should not be so long. An equal distribution over the rellis is the main end to be attained. In the South, where the Scuppemong, James, and other varieties of the rotundifolia class succeed they need no pruning whatever. All they need is a frame or arbor to spread over. Indeed, pruning is injurious to them.
On the Pacific Slope, where the finest grapes of the Old W.orld are al most universally grown an entirely different system of training is practiced. The vines are caused to form stumpy trunks, from which branches grow out each year and are cut back only a few buds each. No trellis support of any kind is needed after the first few years.

The Black Ben Davis as 1 Found it at Home.
As I have before said publicly, about the Black Ben Davis-Gano contention, the truth is what we should know. Therefore, I made a longcontemplated trip to Washington County, Arkansas, to see for myself the trees in bearing, if there were any to be found. I had been uncertain as to the true identity of the apple which has been pushed by Stark Bros., and had promised myself to some time critically investigate the matter and learn the facts for myself.

I first went to the place where the original tree was said to have stood. I had doubted whether there was such a place, but it was found, if we are to believe the word of honestminded country people. The spot was shown me at the rear of a $\log$ cabin by the two old people, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas, who live there. They told me the tree died in 1889, because the chickens had roosted on it so much as to injure the branches for several years before; and, that the largest branch had leaned over the back part of the low roof and was cutoff the year before. The tree had borne very heavily from the time it was first known by them. They both spoke of the apples in very approving terms, as being better tasted than Ben Daris and keeping later. They said it bore regularly, and that the fruit kept later in the spring than Ben Davis.

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Still sits the schoolnouse by the road, A ragged beggar sunning;
Around it still the sumacs grow,
And blackberry vines are running.
Within the master's desk is seen, Deep-scarred by raps official The warping floor, the battered seats, The jacknife's carved initial.
The charcoal frescoes on its wall
Its door's worn sill, betraying
The feet that, creeping slow to school, Weat storming out to playing!
Long years ago a winter sun Shone o'er it at setting;
Litupits western window-panes, And low eaves' icy fretting.
It touched the tangled golden curls And brown eyes full of grieving Of one who still her steps delayed When all the school were leaving.
For near her stood the little boy Her childish favour singled; His cap pulled low upon a face Where pride and shame were mingled.
Pushing with restless feet the snow To right and left, he lingered-
As restlessly her tiny hands The blue-checked apron fingered.
He saw her lift her eyes; he felt The soft hand's light caressing, And heard the tremble of her voice, As if a fault confessing.
"I'm sorry that I spelt that word; I hate to go above you,
Because"-the brown eyes lower fell,"Because, you see, I love you!'
Still memory to a gray-haired man That sweet child-face is showing, Dear girl! the grasses on her grave Have forty years been growing !
He lives to learn in life's hard school, How few who pass above him Lament their triumph and his loss, Like her-because they love him. John Greenleaf Whittier.

## Plants Protect Themselves.

A single leaf of an apple tree has one hundred thousand pores, and through every one of these water is constantly passing off into the surrounding atmosphere. Air has an enormous appetite for water, and the drier it is the more it takes up.

Considering the way in which the atmosphere is constantly forcing the apple tree and every other plant to give up its moisture, the marvel is that after a very few days of hot sunshine every plant does not wither and dry up. Yet even those growing in light soil and exposed situations manage to withstand weeks of drought without losing their greenness. More marvelous still, acacias and cacti will grow and remain green out on the wastes of the fiery desert in Africa and Arizona.

Plants, like all other living things, have learned to adapt themselves to their situations, and to take precautions accordingly. Water to plants is more valuable than gold is to human beings, and where the supply is scanty they have learned to hoard it as carefully as a miser does his treasure.
Plants cannot refuse to give up water altogether, for otherwise they could not grow. All their food is
taken up by their roots, dissolved in water. This sap rises through their veins and feeds them. They make
let the water which contained escape through their lungs-that is, their leaves.
But their methods of holding on to sufficient water to keep them green and flourishing are many and ingenious. Go out and pick a leaf from any plant or shrub-a hawthorn leaf, for instance. notice that its upper side i
smoother than the under side.
The upper side looks dull in com parison. This is because the upper side is exposed to the direct rays of the sun. The glaze prevents the hot rays sucking all the water out of the surface of the leaf. Some plants, indeed, refuse entirely to part with water through the upper side of the leaf. Laurustinus and lilac leaves have no pores at all on the shiny upper surface of the leaves.

Pine trees inhabit dry, sandy soils. These refuse to grow wide leaves, but confine themselves to producing thick, fleshy needles, which have very few openings through which water can escape. Cabbages need an enormous quantity of water, but unless the sup(Continued o o page twenty-nine.)

## Cause of Headache.

Sick headache is caused by a general deranged condition of the system. It is often called bilious headache. It comes from indigestion. Do not depend upon a combination of medicine and fasting to rid yourself of these distressing at tacks. When the stomach has been burdened helpful. When the sick headache is on, proper medicine may relieve the terrible pain; but nourishment, and strength and nutrition are better than either starvation or drugs. Better help nature than to try to force it. Better to give the stomach good food thaumedicine.
People who live upon a correct diet do not have sick headaches. Stomachs that are not abused do not rebel.
Malta-Vita neither forces nor stimulates. It just nourishes and strengthens. Malta-Vita is
the most nourishing food known. It drives away headaches and other disorders by supplying the natural forces with power to overcome these ills. Good, rich, strengthening food will put the human system in healthy condition, then there is no need of fasting or drugs.
Malta-Vita is a food made from the whole wheat, thoroughly cooked and impregnated with the extract of barley malt, flaked and toasted; the most perfect food known.
Easily digested and assimilated by the weakest system.
well.

When moral courage feels that it is in the right, there is no personal daring of which it is incapable.

Leigh Hunt.
Important to Mothers and Girls.
We wish to call the attention of mothers and girls to the advertisement of the Bisque Doll Co., of Bridgeport, Conn., to be found elsewhere in this issue. It is one of the wonders of this adgiven for so little work. They give a genuine imported doll for selling \$2 worth of jewelry novelties.
In addition to the doll they also give a Turquoise Bracelet and Gold laid Ring. If you want Dept. D 5, Bridgeport, Conn.

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## Pop Corn Fancies.

On the rug by the ingle we pop the corn
In the heat of the curling blaze
And each kernel of gold from the white cob shorn
Gaily round in the popper plays.
Oh, it's while the popped corn on the plate is piled
That we rise upon fancy's wing,
With a thought of the winter so bleak and wild And a thought of the pulsing spring.
For it seems unto us in the rosy glow Of the grate that dispels all gloom That each kernel bursts into a flake of snow, Or a delicate apple bloom.

## Ruth's Dog Towzer.

A very funny thing happened at Ruth's house the other day, and brought her into ill repute with at least one member of the police force. She was a very serious little girl of five, with great, solemn, trustful eyes. No one would ever dream of her, telling what was not exactly true, and she never made- a joke in her life.

She was sitting on the bottom step of her stoop on this special morning, when Mr. Smith, the big policeman, came along. He interested Ruth very much by going to the door of every house, a little open book and pencil in his hand. After talking with whoever came to the door for a moment, he turned away, sometimes writing in the little book, but oftener not.
At the minister's door he wrote something, and at Dr. Blake's. Ruth particularly noticed that.

Mr. Smith was a tremendous power in the neighborhood. Not a boy dared to shout or fling a ball when he was in sight; and as for the little girls-well, they always breathed freer when Mr. Smith turned the corner.

Ruth watched the big man until he reached her house.
Then, with a quaking heart, she saw him mount her steps. Mamma opened the door.
'Do you kape a dog, mum?'" asked Mr. Smith.
"No," replied the woman, and to Ruth the dear voice seemed to shake with fear.

Mr. Smith bowed sternly, and turned to come down.

It was perfectly clear to Ruth now. Mr . Smith was putting the entire neighborhood under arrest, except those who kept dogs!

The minister had one, and so had Dr. Blake. She meant to save mamma if she could. So she tremblingly faced Mr. Smith on the bottom step, and said gently, "mamma forgot Towser, sir."

Mr. Smith was all attention.
"Is this your house?" he questioned.

Yes, sir." Ruth's great, honest eyes gazed frankly into the grim face, looking down.
"And you have a dog, eh?"
"Yes, sir. Towzer is our dog."
Up the steps again went Mr. Smith, and sharply rang the bell.

Mamma replied.
"Where's your dog, mum?" | A little hempseed, is a good thing. "I told you that we have no dog. for the laying hens at this season; a We have never had a dog," mamma answered.
'Oh! This is an old trick, mum, though we don't meet it often in these neighborhoods. However, you've got a truthful little girl; and she isn't so sure that ye have no dog. I insist upon seeing him, mum:"

A funny little gleam came in mamma's eyes.
"Ruth," she called, "you may as well bring Towzer. The officer insists upon seeing him.'

Mr. Smith's face grew very red as Ruth ran up stairs.

Presently she came back. "Here's Towzer, sir," she said with a quiver. "Here's our dog!" And she held up to the astonished eyes of the big policeman a dirty Canton flannel dog. one shoe-button eye quite gone, his tail in shreds, and his detached ears pinned to his head with safety pins! If Mr. Smith had been wise he would have laughed, but Mr. Smith was not on the police force because of his wisdom.

Mamma, though, laughed merrily, while Ruth hugged Towzer, and felt that in some roundabout way he and she had saved the family from an awful fate. Christian Register.

## Poultry Department (Continued.)

attention is paid to the feeding. Pullets hatched in March, or early in April, have to be mainly depended on for eggs in the late fall. These pullets should have special treatment after they are four months old. As soon as they are out of the house in the morning, they should have a warm feed, though they might not have more than they will eat hungerly, or they will become too fat to lay. Barley meal or ground oats may be given alternately, mixed with double the quantity of middlings. This must be made into a crumbly paste with hot water, a very little salt and pepper being added. Any scraps from the house can be mixed with the meal, for heat is conductive to egg production. Green food and a handful or two of grain, such as wheat, should be given at noon. Before the birds go to roost, they must have a good feed of grain, either wheat; barley or buckwheat, as much as they can eat, but none to be left over.

In cold weather, some warm water to drink the first thing in the morning is good. The grain too, given in at roosting time, can sometimes with advantage be soaked in boiling water, before being given to the fowls. The stimulating powders and spices that are advertised, should be used very sparingly for pullets or harm will be done. Those who wish to use a poultry powder will find the following a good receipe: Aniseed, three parts; fenugreek, four parts; carbonate of iron, two parts; gentian, three parts; and ginger ten parts; a tablespoonful three times a week in the soft food for twelve fowls.
handful for half a dozen hens, twice a week. Those hens that are yet moulting, will be helped by having some flower of sulphur mixed with the soft food; a teaspounful twice a week to six hens in dry weather, but not when it is damp and cold. The house must be kept free from leakage and from draught. If the feeding is done at regular hours, as suggested and not more given at each meal than is readily eaten, and if your hens and pullets hatched about March are kept, they ought to lay by October and continue to lay throughout the winter.

> A. V. Meersch.

## One Woman's Way of Painting.

The bright wife of a bright Phila delphia newspaper man has to do some of the housework herself, as her husband's income does not justify the luxury of employing help. The other day, finding out that the floor needed painting, she procured the necessary materials, and early in the afternoon set to work.
When her husband returned in the early evening he found her in tears in the center of the room. She had painted the floor all around herself, and there she was, on a little dry island in the middle, afraid of crossing the wet paint for féar of spoiling all her work. Her husband, instead of imitating Sir Walter Raleigh, procured a board and released her from durance vile. Then he meanly told the story.

## Philadelphia Telegraph.

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## December Plans.

What shall we do next? It is now pretty cold weather for real active work, especially in our northern clime; but some of our folks in the sunny Southland can go on with but slight interruption. I rather think we may be excused now if we take a little vacation, so far as the real active work timecerned. And now that, for the time being most of us are weatherbound as to the actual garden operations we may anticipate to some extent and lay our plans for the future.
Early in the new year we desire to take up the work in regular order beginning at the stepping stone and detailing the various phazes as they follow each in succession. This, however,
we prefer not to do until all the numerous members of our 1903 family are assembled. It is timely now to make resolutions and the first step in that direction is for each of us to resolve that next year we will have a garden. Some member of our family no doubt played truant at garden making time last year; but next spring we shall be decidedly opposed to excusing any who possess a single square rod of ground. To encourage those who
have but little space, I desire to talk of some of the possibilites of the

## Small Garden.

Without in the least drawing upon fancy, but to speak only of actual transactions, the garden I have in size. The entire available space for vegetables and flowers was two plots in the back yard separated from each by a brick walk. One plot was $14 \times 35$ feet in size and the other $14 \times 16$ feet. On the larger plot there were three currant bushes ${ }^{\circ}$ just coming into bearing and one two-year old peach tree. On the smaller was a goodly sized clump of lilacs. At first thought, some of our readers may decide that this was too small a garden for any us see what was actually accomplished. In the first place there were three regular members of the garden force: a wife and sister, neither overly large as to stature, but both with regular home-spun appetites. The male gardener tipped beam at 200 pounds plus, and to dinner, table longings were never found "wanting." Occasional visitors sat also at our table and to our knowledge never left it unsatisfied. Excepting potatoes and sweet corn, no vegetables were purchased during the season, and I think we never went hungry for a longer time

## What We Grew,

Well there were radishes in plenty as long as we cared for them. Early onions to eat and give away, until the seed ripened which gave us half a pound. Lettuce grew in abundance as also parsley and sage. Two varie-
ties of peas fully supplied us in their season, and there were some for the neighbors as well. There were twenty-five heads of cabbage, and beets as many as we cared for. Summer squashes, also tomatoes both for slicing and canning for the winter. Two varieties of pole Lima beansthe Black and Willow leaf, with Burpee's bush Lima gave full supply for green and some to store for winter use. Twelve quarts of strawberries swelled the list. Now when starting the garden I thought there was far too little ground even for vegetables; but the lady contingent of the force demanded some room for flowers, and regardless of my plans, the .ground was pre-emptied without as much as "by your leave." My wife is authority for that portion of the garden aggregation, and she quotes the list of flowers grown as follows: Balsam, salvia, candy tuft, mignonette, verbena, asters, sweet peas, morning glories, cinnamon vine, wild cucumbers, lilacs, violets, ferns, lilies, nasturtiums, pansies, phlox, petunias, pinks, holly hocks, ageratum, daisies, larkspur vicinus, and sweet William.
It is admitted that this looks like rather bulky list of vegetables and flowers to grow in so small a space. Yet this was a garden in fact and not on paper, and it took some planning to people a neighborhood. so thickly without some risk of family quarrels, but they grew harmoniously side by side and flourished. The real fact is that much more might have been done with the aid of a hot bed and systematic rotation. The work was carried on in a hap-hazard sort of way without particular thought as to which might be done. It was a good showing, however, but the hot bed would have given earlier vegetables by a month at least, and careful rotation would have given a far more varied supply. It would be a mistake to suppose that we stepped out into the back yard and "found' this garden with the vegetables growing there by chance. On the contrary, small as it was, it took both brawn and brain to care for, and make it prosper. In luoking over the garden one day, a lady friend remarked to A CURE FOR THE TOBACCO HABIT Mrs. W. L. Spalding, 342 state St., Des Moines, Iow has discovered a harmess remedy for the tobacce
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my wife that she really believed that |fiend or garden crank in general. But
alt we had to do to flowers and vegetables to make them grow was to look
at them. Well there was considerable 'looking'' for it was indeed a pleasure to watch the beauties of Nature unfold from day to day, and every day added new interest. But there was also much, very much labor bestowed, only it was lightened each day by generous rewards. Of course, had they been reckoned upon the cold blooded basis of dollars and cents, then profits might have been found in the minus quantity. But it was far more than this. It was getting close to Nature and farther away from care; farther out into light and hope, and leaving the darkness and fear behind us. Is not this even better than rewards of silver and gold?

## Another Family.

But I had nearly forgotten one important feature of our garden aggregation, that summer. A large double shed at the rear end of the lot occupied more than one-half its width. A portion of this fitted up, afforded nice quarters for our family of pure bred Portridge Cochin fowls. The head of the family, a fine old fellow, same as a house dog, must certainly have been a firm believer in a "plurality of wives' for he had no less than six chosen ones to share his joys and sorrows. Through a door in the rear of their house, they had access to an ample runway, and by strict attention to business, performed well their part. The family egg supply was furnished by them in addition to two hatchings sold at $\$ 2.00$ each. A fine brood of chickens was also reared by one of the chosen six, some of which sold at $\$ 2.00$ a piece the following winter. Have you compared the over-ripe fruit gathered at the grocery stores with that
freshly taken from the nest, which your own biddies deposited there? If so, you have surely seen the reward in this.

## Some Other Things.

How many are going to try the winter celery and rhubarb? Without the plants of the former already on hand, it will be pretty hard to procure them so late in the season. They would be liable, even could they be secured, to be disappointing. I hope all have not failed, howerer, in having some to put in the cellar or other warm dark place, for to neglect it is to miss one of the rarest of winter table relishes. And the winter rhubarb, are you not going to make the effort? To fail on that would be entirely too bad. It is not too late for that just as long as the ground is not frozen too hard to admit of digging the roots. Try it in a box or barrel by the kitchen range if you have no cellar or shed warm enough. It is so easy of management and you will enjoy it so much.

Some Reflections.
I am half afraid that some of our readers will denounce me as a rhubarb

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wish for their sakes that those back yards had been spaded up and turned into a manual training ground in the art of hoeing and weed-pulling. conviction is forcing itself upon me that if every college campus in the land were plowed up and turned into horticultural grounds and that if ever student of either sex were obliged to DO YOU READ THE MAGAZINES?
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## $\Psi$ Poultry Department

Conducted by Charles F. Thompson.

A Question Answered.
Mr. Editor-Dear Sir
Noticing in your September number that all questions of a legitimate nature, pertaining to poultry, would be answered, I would like to in
quire particularly about the Buff Orpington fowl Having just started in with a few of them, bein attracted by their appearance at an exhibition where I could see no other breed that seemed to please me so well, I desire to know how the knows about the different breeds.

Buff Orpington Question.
The Buff Orpington introduced inDed this country by Mr. Loring o Dedham, Mass., is probably, in fact unquestionably, one of the most valu able additions to poultry culture brought from abroad for many years.

Personally we have had but limited experience with the breed, but at the start having obtained some imported birds, unadulterated by Buff Plymouth Rock blood as much of the American bred stock has been, we have found them a first class all around fowl, being good layers of a large rich, brown shelled egg, most faithful and steady sitters, and good mothers, without the rather objectionable leg and toe feathering of the Asiatic class; yet just as tractable and easily hancled as the best of them. They resemble much the Langstian in all except leg feathering and colur. juicy and the chicks, as they grow, feather remarkably well. There are many good points about them which space will not allow us to enumerate, new European breed a glorious future in this country.

The very best quality can satisfy the epicure better than any thing we can produce with a yellow skin from the American class. We are not pitting against the American class now the Mediterranean breeds, Leghorn, the Spanish, nor Minorcas, which excel as white shelled egg pioducers, but for fine tender meat we really have no American pure breed that can equal the Houdan from France or the English Dorking, the Langshan or the Orpington, all of which have a white skin and correspondingly white fat instead of yellow.
The latter two breeds we consider as profitable as any to be found in the large sized breeds as all around poultry. Charles F. Thompson.

## Poultry Notes.

(Written for Vick's Family Magazine.
No doubt more poultry diseases are
traceable to filth than any other traceable to filth than any other cause. A part of the hen house
should be cleaned once a week. should be cleaned once a week.
In selecting a breed I would not depend too much on the reputation claimed for them as winter layers. But, on this you may depend every
jtime, that winter eggs, result from giving the fowls spring and summer conditions, warmth, good air; plenty of food of the right kind and given in the proper way, will insure eggs from most any breed. Its the feed and care more than the breed.
One advantage of having only one variety of chickens on the farm is, that they attract the eye of those who pass by, and make a pleasant complement of the general thriftness of the place, while where only mongrel stock and scrubs are kept but few notice them, because they are too common, and I find there are comparatively few persons who take the interest in caring for a flock of fowls of this kind that they would if they were an at tractive lot of pure breds, hence the mixed up lot rarely pays.

We hear a good deal about the utility fowls, as compared with the standard bred fowl. It is claimed by a class of breeders that the utility value of fowls is seriously impaired by efforts to adapt them to the demands of the standard of perfection. It is said that in striving to attain perfection in one or more points, such as color of plumage, legs, beak, shape of comb, style of carriage etc., matters of greater concern have been set aside. In other words, practicai qualities have been sacrificed for appearance. There is one thing I have noticed, and that is, in the egg and dressed poultry departments of our largest shows, the majority of the prizes have been won by what are classed as standard bred fowls. No doubt some strains of fowls have been bred down so fine, in order to get some particular point, that in constitution and laying qualities or both they are weak, but I will take my chances with the standard bred fowls for all of that, and I believe that in nine cases out of ten they will win.

In every city and village in the country many mechanics and laborers are living from hand to mouth, especially in the manufacturing districts of the East, and a great many of these people, could by a little exertion, benefit themselves greatly by making poultry raising on a small scale an auxiliary, to their daily pursuits. The poor man seems to forget that economy leads to wealth, and that much of his poverty is due to the neglect of providing the ways and means of maintaining himself and family from being dependent on his daily wages. As time goes on the rich are becoming richer and poor, poorer. Take for instance the miner,

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VICK'S FAMILX MAGAZINE

Poultry Department (Continued.)
who probably suffers more than those employed in any other labor, because he is compelled to work hard for low wages and hand his earnings back to his employers for rent and provisions. With the aid of a flock of forty or fifty good fowls, they would be able to save much more of their earnings than they now do and at the same time live better. . There are but few who live outside the crowded precincts of cities but what can raise and keep at least a few fowls. The cost of their keeping is not great, and their product from one season to another will be found a great saving in the home expenses, besides the sat isfaction of having your own eggs and chickens when you want them. V. M. Couch.

Success in Making the Hens Lay in Cold Weather.
Many times have I been asked the question, "How do you care for and what do you feed your hens to make them lay in the winter?" Last fall and winter I had excellent success in getting eggs, although there was nothing unusual in the weather, and my flocks were afforded only ordinary accomodation, all in single boarded houses. The lot consisted of about thirty-five head, twenty-five Barred Rocks and balance White Leghorns. I gave them no extra care, just looked after them regularly, and I gathered close around twenty eggs daily right along from about November first. Of course, this is not an extra showing but very good for the winter About two-thirds of the flock were pullets, a dozen of them hatched fore part of April, balance last of April and in May.

It is said that the production of eggs in cold weather is a problem. Well, in some instances this may be true, but with the right kind of stock, regular care and proper food it is not very hard to solve. Different breeders have different methods, and it seems that where one succeeds with a certain method or system another fails. The natures of the various breeds must be studied, and in this comparatively few poultry raisers make any difference in feed or care.

To give a general plan of feed and care to suit all conditions would be rather difficult. I believe in feeding a mash either morning or night, for the heavy breeds, like the Rocks and Brahmas. I give the mash at night, except in rather cold weather, when I feed it in the morning or at noon. Whether to feed this mash every day or every other day can be decided by experiment. I have had very good success with a mash composed as follows: one-half corn meal and ground oats, one quarter bran and one quarter boiled vegetables or soaked beef (Continued on next page.)
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Our Poultry Department, under the able direction of Mr Charles F. T'homeson is becoming more and more popular.' Our great aim is to help those who keep but a few hens, to make the most of them. It is easy to make a failure of poultry without proper instruction. I will be easy to make a success of it if you will read our Poultry De partment each month. In February, 1903 we shall publish a

## Special Poultry Number

And during the next three months we shall send out to Poultrymen 50,000 som ple copies. We are now publishing 50,000 copies each issue. We will accept sinall advertisements of three lines each at $\$ 1.00$ per issue for these special issues, larger ads. pro rata.

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scraps, or cut clover hay steamed. ${ }^{\circ}$ ready sale for them. The majority of This to be mixed with boiling water at night, covered up and left to steam and fed warm in the morning, or if to be fed at night, prepare in the morning. Feed green food every day, and meat in some form should be fed at least twice a week. Feed sparingly of all the above food, never any more than they will clean up, and not so much but what they will still be hungry enough so as to keep right along looking for more feed in the litter. And right here let me say that I believe exercise is one of the most important parts in getting hens to lay in cold weather. If they can be fed and cared for so as to keep them lively they will produce eggs, otherwise they won't; at least this has been my experience. Have plenty of litter in the pen and after it has been dug and hauled over by the hens so as to pack it down, it should be removed and clean fresh material put in its place. By the way I have experimented some in exercising laying fowls. In one pen which contained fifteen hens I used a Poultry Feeder and Exerciser-a machine constructed to feed the grain out sluw, nature's way and at the same time making the hens work, for all they get. In the other flock of twenty the grain was given them in the ordinary way, and from the pen where the "Feeder" was used I have got more eggs right along than from the other lot. And in the flock where the Feeder and Exerciser was used, the fowls seemed to be in better condition, that is they were more lively, combs and eyes were brighter, and they did not get nearly as fat. This makes it plain to me that hens to lay in winter, or any other time for that matter, must have exercise. And I think that any one who will take the pains to divide up his flock and feed them their grain in this way for a couple of months, will be thoroughly convinced of the importance of giving the grain feed to the hens so they will fill up gradually and not gorge themselves, and at the same time keep to work. In fact, to me, it solves "the problem of feeding so as to get eggs in winter.
I have been feeding largely of cracked corn and wheat, but a greater variety of grain is better, and if given on the above plan there is little danger of over feeding, a matter which we have to be careful about, especially with the heavy breeds.

## M. Couch.

Fowls, and Feeding of Fowls for Lay ing Purposes.
Notwithstanding the enormous number of eggs that are imported into the country, it is satisfactory to find that the supply produced here is largely on the increase. Thousands more people keep fowls than was the case eren ten years ago. Home grown, fresh eggs and not foreign eggs only, can be obtained from most grocers and other vendors of eggs in both town and country, and there is
poultry keepers have to be content with a small run for their birds but this is no obstacle to success, provided the fowls are fed and managed properly, they will do as well in a limited place as on a farm or other free range. There are still many homes where poultry is considered impossible, in which new laid eggs laid on the premises could be on the table every morning throughout the year.

The number of good laying breeds of fowls has been considerably added to. The old list of half a century ago contained only about ten or a dozen varieties. But since the Minorca, Wyandotte, Leghorn, Orpington, Plymouth Rock, Ancona, and Faverolle have come prominently to the front, many of them being superior as layers to any of the old breeds. In the making of some of these, the old varieties have undoubtedly been largely used, notably the Dorking, Hamburg, Cochin, and Brahma, which by clever mixing and blending have produced most valuable results.

To answer the question so often put as to which is the best breed to keep for laying purposes, it is necessary to know the conditions under which the fowls will be kept. The bulk of those who have fowls are limited as to space and instead of a pure breed, the birds most usually kept are the mongrels. Most mongrels become broody, this alone renders them unsatisfactory, for in a run of fifteen feet by five wide, which is as much as is often available, there is no room for chickens. Broody hens are therefore not required, and a lot of time is lost when they want to set. If mongrels must be kept they ought to be young birds, never more than two and a half years old. Young hens are more readily and quickly broken of their desire to sit than old fowls; but if a sitting breed is desired it is better to have a pure one, for then the characteristics of the birds are known. Wyandottes for example lay tinted eggs, are hardy, stand confinement well and are good winter layers; whereas the mongrels' capabilities can only be learned by experience.

Black Minorca can be strongly recommended, both to the small poultry keeper and to the man who has plenty of room, and who looks to eggs for his profit. It will do well in confinement if required, is a non-sitter

## A CHAMCE TO MAKE MONEY,

Many women say it is hard to get along in the world because they do not have the opportunities to make money that men have. I disagree with them, for I am perfectly independent since starting the Cold Cream and Skin Food business. I never make less than $\$ 27.00$ a week and often clear $\$ 55.00$. I am selling Cream of Roses and I make it at home. There is a phenomenal demand for it the whole sea-
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VICK'S FAMILY MAGAZINE
ply was absolutely unlimited their big leaves would give up so much to the air that, without some means of checking this over liberality, they would wilt and die.

Cut a fresh cabbage leaf and examine it. It has a sort of dusty, mealy look. Put the leaf under a microscope and you will see that this bloom is composed of tiny needles of wax. The cabbage has produced the wax to protect jtself from the waterstealing rays of the sun.

Australia is the driest of all the continents; yet it has plenty of tress They never grow any more leaves than they absolutely need, and they take the additional precaution of turning these leaves edgewise so that those water thieves, the sun's rays, cannot fall direct upon their broad surfaces. Australian acacias go a step further still. When they are fully grown they shed their leaves altogether; they keep the leaf stalk and produce two tiny wings, which present their edges to the sun.

In spite of these various precautions the amount of water which growing plants part with to the air is almost beyond belief. A square foot of long pasture grass gives off nearly $42-5$ pints of water every twenty-four hours in dry weather. That is to say, there rises into the air 106 tons of water from each acre of meadow within the summer day and night.

One single cabbage has been measured to give off two and one-half pints of water within a similar period. As for the amount big trees give off it is enormous. A sixty-foot elm will have about seven million leaves. If spread out these would cover two hundred thousand square feet, or five acres. From these leaves there pass out into the air within a summer day over seven tons of water in the form of, vapor. Baltimore Snn.

## A THING WORTH KNOWING.

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need of applying burning plasters to the flesh and
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The third edition of his eighty-page book on "The Eye and its Diseases" is ready for distribution and will be sent to all who write him. In a recent letter Dr. Coffee, the noted oculist of Des Moines, Iowa, who is creating such a sensation by his wonderful cures of blindness from cataracts and other eye diseases, states that he has just published the third edition of his book on "The Eye and Its Diseases." He will send this book free to every reader of Vick's Magazine who all its different diseases. Contains colored pho tographs showing how diseased and blind eyes look. It explains how Dr. Coffee originated his wonderful Absorption Treatment, how people afflicted with cataracts and all forms of eye diseases can cure themselves of these afflictions at home at a very small expense. It gives the names and addresses of hundreds of people
have been restored tosight by his remedies.
Write Dr. Coffee a postal card today for t book and read his ad. in this paper on page and mention this publication.

## Poultry Department (Continued.)

and lays a quantity of large white eggs. In cold situations, it is likely to suffer from frost-bite, in severe weather, this is its only disqualification. The Leghorn for those who have free range, is a most prolific layer. The eggs are large and light in color, but the hens do not sit and are small eaters. The Orpington is very fashionable at present, particularly the buff variety. It is an excellent layer, especially in the winter. The Black Orpington is well suited to a small run. It is very hardy and lays a lot of colored eggs. The Faverolle is a peculiar looking French fowl, coming quickly into prominence in this country. It matures quickly and adapts itself readily to a small place and is a good layer of light colored red eggs.

The feeding of fowls, so that they may be kept alive and apparently in good health, is a simple matter. At least so it would seem from the way in which many poultry keepers throw down some grain day after day. The same sort of grain, thrown in the same spot, a mode of feeding, which has the advantage of simplicity, and which does not prevent the hens laying a certain number of eggs. But those, who study the matter at all, have found that the object with which the food is given ought to be taken in consideration. Fowls can be fed for increased weight for table purposes, for exhibition, so as to be in the best condition for egg production, and with other results in view. And in each case the diet should be somewhat different. Therefore to give only grain of one description always without any change, is not calculated to bring about the most satisfactory results.
The price of new laid eggs is now rising, owing to their scarcity in the fall and winter; very few people can get their hens to lay at this time, and this to a great extent is because no (Concluded on page twenty-one.)
Dr. Earl Mt. Sterling, Ill., Jan. 18th, 1902. Dear Sir . Bloan, Boston, Mass.
days ago and a perva a letter from you a few ney Pills for which I thank you very mure Kid I have been bothered with my kidueys for ove wo years, and have used a great many different remedies withoutsuccess, but amglad to say that ready, and I know that I will soon be cured. I have only taken half of what you sent me
and feel perfectly well. I will do all I can to advertise you and your remedies in this part of the country, for I know that Dr. Parker's Remedies will do all that you say they will.
Yours very truly

> urs very truly, Clark. (Signed) Leo

A mail order catalogue of unusual interest is that issued by Ridgway \& Co. of Chicago. They advertise a large line of goods suitable for holi day gitts and our readers would do well to send
for the catalogue. See their advereisement on page 35 of this issue.

## A New Idea.

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achieve this end, every individual interested in
such things is urge to such things is urged to assist in the investigation by means of personal experience and discovery. Ojo de Buey (pronounced "oho de bway") is a beauoratory of Nature. In size and appearance it resembles an ox's eye. For thousands of years the simple people of the Semi-Orient were the only human be-
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who have seen those powers conclusivel y demonstra who have seen those powers conclusively demonstra-
ted. The natives of that far-off land firmly believe that the possessor of Ojo de Buey is effectively pro-
tected from ACCIDDNT, ILL-HEALTH and the EVIL EYE; that his VITALITY and VIGOR will
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and SUCCESSFDU in all his But to the student of occultism the most wonderful phenomenon connected with this jewel, and which is riveting the attention of great minds throughout the
world, is the power it has of enabling a persongazing by. Faces and mat the moment, at a distance or near mies, with their varying expressions, appear to the
gazer with a vividness that is startling. gazer with a vividness that is startling.
Such a power gives the jewel an inestin such a power gives the jewel an inestimable value erest it has created. Naturally the widespread inde Buey is limited, but the Natural Researer of Ojo of London was fortunate enough to secure all that experience of intelligent people to assist in solving the great secret of the "Ox's Eye ", they in soll be disg
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Jes' 'Fore Christmas.
Father calls me William, sister calls me Will Mother calls me Willie-but the fellers call me Bill? Mighty glad I ain't a girl-ruther be a boy Without them sashes, curls an' things that's by Fauntleroy!
Love to chawnk green apples an' go swimmin' in the lake-
Hate to take the castor-ile they give f'r belly-ache Most all the time the hull year roun' there ain' no fllies on me.
But jes' fore Christmas I'm as good as I kin be
Got a yaller dog named Sport-sick'em on the cat Fust thing she knows she dosen't know where she is at
Got a clipper sled, an' when us boys go put to slide

But, sometimes, when the grocery man is worrit ed and cross,
He reached at me with his whip, and larrups up his hoss,
Au' then I laff an' holler: "Oh, you never teched But jes' 'fore Christmas I'm as good as Í can be For Christmas, with its lots an' lots of candies, cakes, an toys,
Was made, they say, for proper kids, an' not for naughty boys;
So, wash yer face, an' brush yer hair, an' mind nd don't bust out yer pantaloons, and don't wear out your shoes
Say "Yessum" to the ladies, an' "Yessur" to the men,
An' when they's company don't pass yer plate for pie again
But thinkin' of the things yer'd like to see upon Jet that tree
Jest 'fore Christmas, be as good as yer kin be.

Confections for Chrtstmas
halved dates, or whatever sweet-meat preferred may be used, according to fancy, making a nice variety of candies. This candy dough can also be pressed through a pastry bag and fashioned into elegant roses, cubes, grapes and scrolls for ornamenting Christmas fruit cakes. It makes elegant icing if spread in thin coats over the cake, using a broad bladed knifle, dipped every little while into water to keep the icing perfectly smooth. The ornaments can then be added according to taste and dexterity.

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## A SLIGHT MISTAKE.

'I hurried away and saw no more of the two ladies until dinner-time, when I noticed them at some distance from me and at the opposite side of the table. My next neighbor was the pretty girl I have mentioned, and in my efforts to please her I forgot my nervousness. I discovered that Miss Maynard-that was the pretty girl's name-and I had mutual friends in the States, so we were soon on the best of terms, There was a chance that we might meet at a Christmas gathering at the home of an old school friend of mine in Virginia, so I felt that it would be worth while to cul tivate her acquaintance.
'Every time I go to sea it seems to me that the same people are on board,' she said, 'but I can't quite make out who that pretty girl is over there, next to the woman whose mouth
twitches so curiously. Do you know? twitches so curiously. Do you know?
., In what was almest a whisper, I told her what I had heard.

Oh,' she exclaimed, 'how very interesting! Quite exciting, isn't it? I must get to know her. I love talking
to people like that, don't you?'

Well n-no,' I confessed, 'I don't
I do, quite. They-well one think I do, quite. They-well one never and the unexpected constantly happens. I once knew a man like that who invariably endeavored to stand on his head as soon as he entered a room. It was awkward, for no one
was heroic enough to attempt to stop his eccentricities.

It must have been awkward,' she said pensively. 'But there is no fear of that in this case.

Oh, no!' I replied hastily. Some one else I knew used to go about embracing every one. That was man, too

You seem to have had a large and varied experience, -Mr . Gibson,' observed my companion. 'No wonder you don't hunger for more! Now I have only met one lunatic in the whole course of my life, and she was rather uninteresting-only fancied
that she was Mary Queen of Scots! She didn't go about embracing people or anything nice like that.
'I sincerely trusted that Miss Goodwin would prove to be an amiable if uninteresting lunatic, and I looked to see if she had an unobtrusive sort of expression. Her eyes were fixed on her plate, but I fancied I detected a slight frown on her white forehead. What was the cause? Could it be that she disliked my friendliness to Miss Maynard? Lun atics were always jealous.
"I felt that I was indulging in foolish and conceited thoughts. Why should any one, however unaccountable for her actions, fall in love with me of all people? It was not likely, certainly; on the other hand, it was just possible. At school they used to call me 'Pretty Jack,' and I was really rather proud of my figure in those days. 'Im too fat now. I tell you that it
was a most dejected young man who paced the deck in the moonlight by the side of Miss Louise Maynard,
under the eyes of the red-haired girl and her nervous companion, to say nothing of some indignant and jealous young lieutenants who had to put up with a couple of rather plain girls between them. Girls were unusually scarce on this particular

At last the ladies went below, and I sat down to enjoy a peaceful smoke unseen by those watchful gray eyes. A major-from a volunteer regiment -seated himself beside me and we began to talk.

By the way' he remarked presently; 'who is that girl with the red hair? I heard that she was a Miss Goodwin, or Godwin, or some such name, and that she is a little bit off' -and he tapped his head significantly.

I heard the same thing,' I replied. 'It isn't a pleasant prospect, is it? Somehow, I don't like people of that sort.
'Neither do I,' he replied, though they say there's a strain of insanity in every one. Personally I prefer the uncertified kind, though. Well, it's a pity, for she's a remarkably pretty girl-by far the prettiest on board. By-the-by, you seem to be going in for the next best pretty extensively-I mean Miss Maynard. You're a lucky fellow; all the boys are fearfully jealous, and I'm not altogether sure that I'm not too. Ha, ha! Well, stick to her, my boy, that's all! I'll wish you "Good night" now' -and he rose and left me.
"The next morning I was up early, but upon reaching the deck I found that some one else was there before me. Miss Goodwin, without her attendant, was already seated there. She looked up as I passed and smiled. Good morning,' she said, 'you and I are early risers!" "I raised my hat.
'Yes, ' I answered-'I always enjoy the early morning at sea. It's so fresh and healthy

Just what I think! But poor Miss Price-that's my companionis so susceptible to sea-sickness.

Here I was with an unattended lunatic! Worse and worse!
'I am sorry.' I said, with genuine feeling in my voice. 'I-I hope she'll soon be all right again!

But the girl shook her head.
'Oh, no,' she replied, 'she's always sick for a week at least! Once she was in her berth for more than a

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PROE, Y. POSTEL,


## Don't Be Too Fat

fortnight. Have you noticed what a few girls there are on board?

Yes-only five. That's the breakfast bell, I think. Are you hungry? I am.

Very. I wonder how poor Miss Price feels when she hears that bell' I've never suffered in that way, so I can't tell.

On reaching the saloon, I found place for her by the Major's side, and, seeing a vacant chair next to Miss Maynard, subsided into it. Miss Maynard received me warmly, but as the eye-glass Captain on her right hand claimed a good deal of her attention I had time to study the Major's face which was a curious mixture of perplexity, amusement, and admir ation.
On catching my eye he winked solemnly, and paused in the midst of his breakfast to stroke his forehead in a suggestive way and shrug his shoulders.

What did he mean?
After breakfast, when I was enjoying a solitary smoke and a novel on deck, the Major joined me.

Well,' he exclaimed, as he seated himself in a deck chair beside me, 'all I can say is this-if she's crazy I like 'em so!'
' I gazed at him in surprise. was evidently excited, and there was a light in his eyes. I could not agree with him, so smoked on calmly watching the clear green water as flecked with snowy white, it fell away from the ship's bows. Some way off Miss Goodwin was seated-all in white this morning-white pique coat and skirt, white shoes, white hat, white parasol; she had a book in her hand, but was not reading; her eyes were fixed on the waves with a dreamy expression in them, and from time to time she smiled a little. The Major was also looking at her.

Did you ever see such a complexion!' he exclaimed at length And what eyes-they seem to look right into you and know all your thoughts!' I sincerely hoped not. And that shade of hair was always my favorite. By George, my boy, I must go over and talk to her: lunatic Will you come
Thanks, no,' I replied, 'I won' spoil sport!'
'The Major laughed gaily. He was a handsome and striking-looking man of about fifty, his gray hair giving him a distinguished and veteran-like appearance-in short, he was just the sort of man to take a girl's fancy. So I smoked on and watched them as they enjoyed an uninterrupted con versation.

Later in the day Miss Goodwin came and stood by me as I leaned against the taffrail.
'You are looking pensive', she remarked. 'A penny for your thoughts!
" 'How can they be of anything but you, Miss Goodwin' I replied, trying to be gallant. 'By the way, is your name Godwin or Goodwin?'

## Goodwin!' she replied.

 I-I was only wondering; didn't quite catch it,' I murmured. It was Hammond's mistake, then.'Isn't Major Seely a nice man,' she said presently, 'and handsome-don't you think so?

Somehow I felt unaccountably in jured.
' Y-yes,' I answered, very! And isn't Miss Maynard a pretty girl?

S-sh! Here she comes! Do you know, I think that's going to be a case, don't you?

Louise Maynard was passing, the Captain at her side; they were engaged in animated conversation, and there was a tender look in his eyes, while her face was somewhat flushed.
'If you say so,' he was saying, you know-

## I laughed.

Yes, it looks like it,' I said, 'These aboard-ship flirtations are very amusing to watch. Sometimes they end in a quarrel, sometimes in a wedding, sometimes in-smoke! Generally the last, I fancy!

One meets curious people on board,' she said. 'I have been to Furope three times and this is my second Pacific trip-so I've had plenty of experience, you see.

Until she said that I had forgotten who or what she was, but now I remembered, and a feeling of regret passed over me-she was so nice and so pretty! What a pity that she was insanel

Several days passed, and at last Miss Price was able to make her appearance amongst us once more. She looked paler and more nervous than ever, but also more determined not to let her charge out of her sight. I hardly knew whether to be glad or sorry for this. Though it was in a waty a relief, I was also obliged to confess that, whereas I could enjoy a conversation alone with Miss Goodwin, Miss Price's presence somehow made me nervous. The Major confided to me that he felt the same. As for the other passengers, they rigidly held aloof, all except Miss Maynard, who was, however, so absorbed in the Captain that she had but little time to spare for anybody else. A couple of young lieutenants - conceited young cubs they were, too-paid Miss Goodwin attention at first, but speedily fell away-evidently she had bestowed a little snubbing upon them, and they deserved it. At all events I heard them agreeing that 'that redhaired girl' was confoundedly stuck

## (Concluded in January number.)

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## MOTHER'S MEETING.

## (Continued from page ten.

The majority of easily exhausted "delicate" people owe this taint to over ambitious or cruelly overworked mothers. Do not express your love in ruffles and tucks. Be sane, be sweet and sunny. Laugh-even if you laugh over tears, and read cheerful books. The old Greeks were wise and we might imitate them. Their women were surrounded by
suggesting strength and beauty
It is always wise to begin early on sewing and doubly so now when you wish to be leisurely. It is also wise to learn how to prevent the illness so common to many. It is a fact that terrible cramping pains are endured in thighs and limbs and the mother becomes despondent and weak from sleeplessness and pain. To cut off a few embroideries would enable her to buy an abdominal bandage to relieve the downward pressure and thus the sharp pains. While past all praise is
their excellence in ordinary weaknesses of women their one grand use is for the expectant mother. To relieve a mother is a worthy deed. the goods made by F. Gorse and Co. Highlandville, Mass., for the purity of material and extra quality of all their manufactures. Elastic hose and knee pieces for those oft dangerous varicose veins which make some mothers so helpless and invalid, resorting to home made clumsy bandages which do more harm by stopping ci culation, are made by this concern into soft luxurious comforters-nay protectors, for these reins cause serious results as well as render it impossible to get exercises of the right sort. I am glad, too, since some of you may feel the purse too small for luxuries, to claim that they have an added virtue, i. e., low price.

We will in next issue outline some layettes for babies who must not ask too much, and add some dainty ideas for those whose time, ability and purse agree. Whether rich or poor no expectant mother can afford to lose the fine ideas shown in the catalogue issued by the Arnold Knitting Co., makers of Gertrude Suits and other grand helps to better days and better ways for babies.

I recommend the American Mother, Trained Motherhood, Babyhood, and Tokology. The intellectual woman will accumulate a small library along these lines and learn only to marvel at the greatness of the greatest of themesMotherhood. How self-conceited, how complacent are those who never learn save by necessity! How humble, how pure and earnest an awakened Mother! To her the Christ-child and the Madonna ideals are thrillingly sweet and holy.
"Tears may soothe the wounds that cannot heal."
Hints to Mothers:-There are many ways of taking Iron as medicine, but the latest way is to take it in the shape of an ordinary hen's egg, a German method. First of all you feed the hens with a mush containing
carbonate of iron mixed with powdered sugar, and then the eggs which the hens lay as the result of such feeding are found rich in iron. It is said taken in this way iron is more readily absorbed by the system and is not affected by cooking prcoesses so that each individual's tastes may be considered. This would form the ideal eggnog madz with Welch's Grape Juice to build up a weak woman, fast growing girl, or delicate children, and a boon for dyspeptics who depend on raw eggs.

If your cellar is damp change it to dryness with a peck of fresh lime in an open box. This will absorb fully seven pounds or three quarts of water from cellar or milk house.

Use borax plentifully if a baby is in the house. It whitens flannels, diapers, blankets. Is equally good to cleanse bottles, nipples, and mouths, and cures baby's sore eyes and mouth.
' Purity in person and in murals is true godliness.

## Mothers as Nurses,

The excess of fear based on the newly realized responsibiilties, en-
dured by young mothers is pitiful. Colic and its peculiar cry is agonizing to both child and parents. Sympathy and ignorance alternate and much unnecessary trouble is endured. I fee no pity for parent whose gross appetite for articles of which even those in health should eat sparingly allows the mother to enjoy (?) food which would surely cause colic pains in any baby and to dose the screaming mite whom they abuse in its sweet helplessness, by such stuff as "soothing syrups," "paregoric," and the like.

Again and again I witness it. At times I grow cnyical as I see such selfish women kiss their babies, "nice and quiet" at the time, from opium, and hear them boast of eating pickles, cabbage, beans, etc., and how they will break baby in to get used to it Such mothers have merely animal feelings and it seems unwomanly and indelicate to hear a woman-so lauded and loved in her sphere of mother-hood-confess to eating what she knows causes pain. Doubtless were anyone to coolly slap that baby till it screamed as hard as in colic she would be furious. Why? The only kindness possible to babies whose mothers care so much for their food is-the bottle. Poor little cuddlers! Is not that soft touch on your breast reward, mother-or do you prefer to munch pickles and walk the floor with baby afterward, feeling abused yourself.

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THE BRIGHT EYED CIRCLE Continued from page eleven) mas she gave to Amelia some quee sewing, for sewing hour beside Motherdie's chair was one of Amelia's pleasures. There were endless small bags of thin colored stuff to make, but as her mother talked of those who feared winter for its cruel cold, of how hard it is to be poor and sick, and of why Jesus chose to come to the world a poor not a rich baby, Amelia bega to think. As she looked upon the glowing grate-fire, and into the conservatory, and listened to her pet birdies sing, a new sense of comfort came to her. She dropped her sewing to say " O , Motherdie, how different we are-the Stevenses and us! Why Sarah hasn't one nice thing of her own. All they have is just what they must have.

You forget the parrot, dearie, that is the family pet.

Oh yes! dear old Folly. They call him that because he is full of tricks. How wise he is, and Motherdie, can't we get such a bird for we have such a good place for one.

You saw the sign then? Ah! Amelia I felt sure it was hard for poor Sarah to nail up the sign, "Trained Parrot for Sale." So I asked her mother up for a few days work and after awhile she cried so bitterly. Yes, we are so different! Think of being barefooted in December.
'Motherdie, shall we buy Folly?
Yes, dear, but only to keep him for a time. It is too cold in their house. Amelia, I think Santa Claus and all his fairies should help the Stevenses this Christmas.
A few days later there was a great "social evening" at Mrs. Benedict's home. Everyone was surprised to see Folly on a perch in the library, grave and wise as ever. Near him sat Mrs. Benedict in her chair, and soon everyone was discussing Mrs. Benedict's plan for playing "Christmas Fairies. After much excited talk everyone said "Goodnight," and left with one of those queer little bags which Amelia had made.
' If God would give me a new back I guess it would be a good Christmas present," sighed Sarah as she tucked all those wiggling children in one bed (quilts were few) and returned to wash dishes and tidy the rooms, or to run in and wait on mamma who shed some sad tears over those stockings she was darning but-not filling.
"Do you 'spose Santa Claus'11 come?'
"Betcher life he will," chirped Sammie, aged five.
"Hush," said Chester sleepily, " don't b'lieve in no fairies.'
It was the saddest night of her life thought Sarah. How cold the rooms were! Good thing Folly was sold to a warm home; but oh! to sell Folly for shoes and underclothes! And daddy would come home-drunk. Sarah cried and cried and fell half asleep. The clock struck twelve but she did not hear, nor the mother who sat sleeping over the unfinished darning.
"'Merry, Merry Christmas," came a singing chorus of voices. Was she dreaming? See there surely stood Santa Claus, and see those queer fairy shapes and what are those bags they are tossing around? There-just see that one with a gay housedress going to the half roused mother's side and laying it down! Just see those stockings filled and hung! And there's a sled! Whyee! a Christmas tree! How they capered and worked and shouted and ran away leaving Sarah and her mother staring, laughing, crying, and all the children danced in screaming with glee, and again Santa Claus appeared bringing-Daddy, sober, and on his arm a basket.

And next day there came a wonderful new baby to the Stevens home. A sweet faced woman kissed it, and a woman was working in the kitchen and Sarah sat in her nice new dress and shoes near the bedside and heard her mother's voice say faintly, "O Mrs. Benedict, God bless those Christmas fairies.

Now what do you think was in those bags. Well, in some there were candies but in all was money, a fairy gift, rained, thrown in, to be hunted for by all the little Stevenses. But, in one, was a letter, such a letter! It was for Daddy, and as he read it tears rolled down his cheeks; but it gave work and a new chance to daddy and there were no more sad Christmas Eves for Sarah.

Smiles for Holidays.
A visitor noticing the prompt replies given at a country school examination, suspected they were ready prepared. So he resolved to ask a few himself and addressed a small girl thus: "Where is Turkey, my dear?"
The child looked startled but suddenly brightened. She piped her answer shrilly, "In the back yard with the chickens, sir.'

The question of the day-What date is it?

A mocking bird-A parrot.
A buy word-Money.
A sea urchin-The buoy.
A crow is never angry without caws. A call to arms-" "Come, take the baby.

A great wag-A dog's tail.
Guilt frames-Prison winḍows
A nap-sack-A pillow.
A fancier's horse máy be called his hobby-horse.

## A New Invention

We do not hesitate to call the attention of our readers to the advertisement of the Allen Manufacturing company, or Coledo, Onio, which will
he found on page i4. Allen's Fountain Bath he found on page i4. Allen's Fountain Bath
Brush is not only a unique, but a most practical and useful device. This invention was conceived in the mind of a genius, and born in the interest of economy, convenience, and cleanliness, the only wonder is that it was not discovered one
hundred years ago.

## Get Ahead.

If pou want to be a teacher, bookkeeper or clerk or fit yourself for a good paying position, write for our educational circular and learn how you can do it without money. AddressVick Publishing Co.

Rochester, N. Y


An Appropriate Xmas Present Five Beautiful Plants for $\$ 1$, or any two for 50c. sent prepaid to any address in the U. S. 3 Paims
2 to 24 ins. high; 1 Fern 18 in.; 1 Asparasus 18 in These are not small plants such as areusually sent out Forth double the price we ask. We make this specia low price on condition that each person ordering wil end names of two persons that are lovers of flowers,
To these and purchasers our 1903 catalogue will be mailed. Our specialty is choice house and other plants.

Ladies:Machintoshhnit


IMAGIC LANTERN
$+3$ HART BFICA BRIDGSPORTGIH:

100 anmy num cuss
 Free Offier FOR LADIES.
Oures every form of Piles, Female Weakness, Dis
placements, Leucorrhea, Suppressed or Painful Periods, etc. We have decided to send one grand \$5.00 quickly introduce in every city town and hamlet in the U. S. Address Dr. Mary Lock Co, 1160 Englewood
Station, Ohicago, III. The above ofer is Eenvine Station, oticago, 110 . The above oifer is genuine.
We ask no questons or references of any kind.
Every lady who writes, stating she is a sufferer from plies or female weaknesse日, or both, will be sen tree a ful \$. Write treatay Whememecial letier from
the doctor. Wrember this is not a
patent medicine but a fuil three-course treatment.

## Drunkard?

 remedy is sure, speedy, absolutily harmless, odoro treatment $\$ 1$. Particulars he Re Fiven correspondence

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## drees tome <br> WOMAN'S WORK, ATHENS, GA. FREE TO EVERY LADY READER



We have arranged with the manufacturers for a large quantity of stamped cam bric linen and shall give the entire collection illustrated above to anyone sending us $\$ 1.00$ for a three year subscription to Vick's Family Mafazine. This gives everybody a splendid opportunity to present their friends with Christmas rememeverybody a that will be appreciated. Remember the subscription price to VIck's is to be increased to $\$ 1.00$ per year in 1903. Better take advantage of our low rate at once. This premium can not be given unless remittance accompanies order. Price alone postpaid 50 cents.

[^0]Address
(Use Pencil.)
County. State.


## A Handsome Afternoon Gown.



Fancy Blouse Waist 4212-Double Skirt 4216.
No material makes more satisfactory or more fashionable afternoon gowns than does veiling in its various weaves. The smart model shown is of the sort known as canvas in a pastel shade of sage green and is trimmed with one of the new fancy braids in black and white and combined with twine colored lace over soft white silk.
The quantity of material required for the medium size is, for waist 3 yards 21 inches wide, $21 / 2$ yards 32 inches wide or 2 yards 44 inches wide, $13 / 8$ yards of all-over lace for yoke, vest, collar $13 / 8$ yards of all-over lace for yoke, vest, collar
and undersleeves; for skirt 8 ) ards 21 inches wide, 7 yards 27 inches wide, $41 / 2$ yards 44 inches wide or $41 / 4$ yards 52 inches wide, with $81 / 2$ yards 21 or $6 \frac{1}{2}$ yards 36 inches wide for the foundation. The waist patteru 4212 is cut in sizes for a 32,34 , 36,38 and 40 inch bust measure.
The skirt pattern 4216 is cut in sizes for a 22, 24, 26,28 and 30 inch waist measure.

A Smart Shirt Waist Gown.


Woman's Blouse with "Slot Seam" effect 4217-Seven-Gored "Slot Seam" Skirt 4197.
"Slot Seams" are among the novelties shown in Autumn styles and are singularly effective in the fashionable shirt waist gowns. The very smart costume shown is of canvas etamine in leaf green stitched with black and is worn with a tie and belt of black velvet, but the design suits all pliable wools and silks.
The quantity of material required for the medium size is,for waist 4 yards 21 or 27 inches wide ${ }^{6}$ $31 / 2$ yards 32 inches wide or $21 / 8$ yards 44 inches $31 / 2$ yards 32 inches wide or $21 / 8$ yards 44 inches
wide; for skirt $101 / 2$ yards 21 inches wide, $91 / 4$ wide; for skirt $101 / 2$ yards 21 inches wide, $91 / 4$
yards 27 inches wide or $51 / 2$ yards 44 inches wide. yards 27 inches wide or $51 / 2$ yards 44 inches wide.
' The waist pattern 4217 is cut in sizes for a 32,34 , The waist pattern 4217 is cut in
36,38 and 40 inch bust measure.
The skirt pattern 4197 is cut in sizes for a 22, 24, 26,28 and 30 inch waist measure.

## Voile With Lace.



Box Plaited Blouse 4156-Five Gored Skirt 4124.
Box plaits are essentially smart and are seen in the best and latest imported gowns. This stylish costume of sage green voile combined with twine colored lace over white shows them to exceptional advantage and is to be commended from every point of view. The blouse is new and generally becoming and includes the fashionable sleeves that are full below the elbows, and the popular big round collar. When made from washable fabrics, which it suits to perfection, the lining can be omitted.
The foundation for the blouse is a smoothly fitted lining that closes at the centre front. On it are arranged the plain back, the shield and the box plaited fronts. The back is smooth across the shoulders and, drawn down in gathers at the waist line, but the fronts are gathered and droop slightly and becomingly over the beit. The sleeves are box plaited from the shoulders to slightly below the elbows, then fall in soft puffs and are gathered into deep cuffs. The closing is effected invisibly beneath the central plait.
The skirt is cut in five gores, that fit snugly and smoothly, and is laid in an inverted plait at ihe back. Toits lower edge is seamed the flounce that is narrower at the front and wider at the back, and which is laid in a succession of box plaits that fall gracefully to the floor.
The quantity of material required for the medium size is, for blouse 4 yards 21 inches wide, $31 / 2$ yards 27 inches wide, $31 / 2$ yards 32 inches wide or 2 yards 44 inches wide with $18 / 4$ yards of all-over lace for collar, shield and cuffs; for skirt $101 / 4$ yards of material 21 inches wide, $81 / 4$ yards 27 inches wide, $71 / 2$ yards 32 inches wide, $53 / 4$ yards 44 inches wide or $5 \frac{1}{2}$ yards 52 inches wide.
The waist pattern 4156 is cut in sizes for a 32,34 , 36,38 and 40 inch bust measure.
The skirt pattern 4124 is cut in sizes for a 22,24 26,28 , and 30 inch waist measure.
(Prices on next page.)

## UP TO DATE PATTERNS. almost given away.



4264 Shirt Waist, 36 to 46 bust.


4266 Girl's Double Breasted Coat.
2 to 10 years.

## 4280 Girl's Coat 6 to 14 yrs.



4187 Short Five Gore
4278 Misses' Shirt Waist or Blouse,

$\varsigma 281$ Blouse or Shirt Walat, 32 to 40 bust.


4272 Girl's Night Gown 2 to 10 years. the different pieces in the pa


4269 Blouse or Shir Waist, 32 to 40 bust.
 4 to 12 yas


4265 Walking Skir 22 to 30 W aist,


4273 Blouse or Shirt Waist, 32 to 42 bnst.


4279 Blouse or Shirt Waist 32 to 40 bust.


4271 Circular Skirt 22 to 30 waist


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4263 Fancy Waist,


4277 Blouse Jacket,


4275 Blouse or Shirt Waist, 32 to 42 bust.


4274 Girl's Russian 4 to 12 yrs .

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school in the world will do this. No other school has enough confidence in its course to do it." To become an expert bookkeepor is easy under our system. Our course is quickly learned. Our system was originated by an expert accountant who has kept and audited the books of the largest
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Seasonable Suggestions. (Continued from page five.)
doping them with liquid manure, plant food and water. If so, desist, for your course of treatment is harming them, and will do them no good. Why? Because December and January are unlucky months for most plants, because they are getting over the shock of moving into the house, and want to sulk awhile before taking kindly to their new surroundings. Because those that are not getting over the shock or sulking, are undoubtedly taking a rest, preparatory to the work that is before them. During February and March they intend to surprise you with many choice blossoms, if you do not discourage them in the meantime.
No matter what the cause of a plant's indisposition may be, if it is at a standstill and does not grow, it should not be over-watered, and no food should be given at all. Put this in your garden note book, and remember it. Resting plants should be left more or less alone. Of course, they should receive occasional attention, but water ought not be given only when the soil is dry. Plant food should be held back until new leaves begin to unfold, but if there are any specimens that are already beginning to reward you with flowers, give them a weekly application of fertilize $r$ and all the water that they need, as indicated by the condition of the soil. Feed the Chinese primroses, and note results in the rich, spicy umbels of flowers and in the large, plush-like leaves.

Also, feed the chrysanthemums. There is little danger of over feeding them. Give liquid manure until after the last flower has faded; then give an additional dose and prepare the plants for a few months' sojourn in the cellar. Cut the tops back nearly to the roots and place the pots where it is cool but frost-proof. Do not let the soil dry out during the winter. In March remove the plants to the living rooms, divide the old roots, after new growth starts, and pot them in three or four-inch receptacles. Every shoot ought to develop into a plant, and you will probably have enough young chrysanthemums to supply your neighbors as well as yourself.

Bulbs planted now will flower along in the spring after the others are gone. If you have neglected to order any at all, do so now, without delay. A winter garden without bulbs is often a flowerless garden. Protection should be applied to out door plants this month before the ground freezes hard enough to harm the roots. Jt is to be hoped that all of the gardening implements are safely under shelter, and that the garden itself is left in first class condition.

Editor's Note.-Mr. Keech, who is one of the most populàr floral writers of the day, will conduct this department during 1903.

Kitty Grey.
Old Kitty Grey Came up missing, one day;
And Louie and Flossie and Little Boy Blue
Looked garret and cellar and all the ho To find the old lady who vanished away And, by all indications, seemed likely to st "She's probably got a new home," said Miss Lou, "And maybe she's dead," wailed young Flossie, Poor Kitty Grey,
Once so happy and Once so happy and gay.
Old Kitty Grey
And with her came trotting a chubby quartet Of dear little kittens in white, gray and jet.
old Kitty Grey had come back fome to stay. old Kitty Grey had come back Ftome to stay
And she, with her babies, was welcomed, straight "You' Way observe," said Boy Blue, as he fed the old "That Kit, with her family, is quite alive jet," And Flo turned a way
And had nothing to say
No Person Should Die
of any kidney disease or be distressed by stumach trouble or tortured and poisoned by constipation. Vernal Saw Palmetto Berry Wine will be sent free and prepaid to any reader of this publication who needs it and writes for it. One dose a day of this remedy does the work and cures perfectly to stay cured. If you care to be cured of indigestion, dyspepsia, flatulence, catarrh of stomach and bowels, constipation, or torpid and congested liver; if you wish to be sure that your kidneys are free from disease and are doing their necessary work thorongh ly; if you expect to be free from catarrh, rheumatism and back ache; if you desire a full supply of pure, rich blood, a healthy tissue and a perfect skin, write at once for a free bottle of this remedy and prove for yourself, without expense to you, that these ail ments are cured quickly, thoroughly, and permanently with only one dose a day of Vernal Saw Palmetto Berry Wine.

Any reader of Vick's Family Magazine, who needs it may have a trial bottle of Vernal Saw Palmetto Berry Wine sent free and prepaid by writing to Vernal Remedy Company, Buffalo, N. Y. It cures catarrh, indigestion flatulence, constipation of the bowels and congestion and sluggish condition of liver and kidneys. For inflammation of bladder, and enlargement of prostrate gland it is a reliable specific,

## LI HUNG CHANG, China's Greatest Statesman

said: "It is a mistake to suppose that success de-
pends on mental ability. It is all a matter of luck." Remarkable stories are being made public all over the country of the wonderful luck which possessors
of the Oriental Lucky Stone are having. The pos-
session of the stone seems to change the period in of the Oriental Lucky Stone are having. The pos-
session of the stone seems to change the period in
man's life, and those who have been suffering the miseries of the empty pocketbook and have had the
hardest kind of luck because of business depression hardest kind of luck because of business depression one of Captain Rand's lucky stones a change follow-
ed at once. These stones are imported from the ed at once. These stones are imported from the over as the true Oriental Lucky Stone. Captain
Rand, a number of years ago, was left deserted on Rand, a number of years ago, was left desertey old Hindoo gave him a lucky stone, whereupon his
luck changed, and it was but a short time before he had made a fortune. in his possession many remarizCaptain Rand has in his possession many remark-
able and interesting letters from prominent people,
meluding Admiral George Dewey, Admiral Housto including Admiral George Dewey, Admiral Houston
and thousands of others, who possess these stones and thousands of others, who possess these stones
and have derived wonderful benefit from them.
Should anyone wish information regarding this Should anyone wish information regarding this
wonderful lucky stone you can addres Captain W.
I. Rand, $175 \nabla$ Tremont St., Roston, Mass. He will be glad, to tell you of his experience and how you
can obtain one of these stones. can obtain one of these stones. means of changing your whole future life, as it has
mine. mine.
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Men millionaires have studied the very method explained in this book and have used them in their business to pile up millions. This book lays bare secrets in the lives of rich men of which you
have never dreamed. It reveals all the hidden have never dreamed. It reveals all the hidden and discloses the real source of power and influformation of inestimable value to every person who wants to succeed in life. Many of the most
prominent public men in this country have obprominent public men in this country have obare daily usiug its teachings and gain.
It tells of a secret, instantaneous method by which you may produce a state of insensibility to pain in any part of the body, so that the teerformed without the use of cocaine, ether or anaesthetics of any kind.
It tells you how to learn to induce sleep in yourself or others at any time of the day or night that
you may desire. It tells you of a subtle power by which you can develop your mental faculties, improve your memory, eradicate disagreeable tempers and habits in children, strengthen your will power and rise to a position of prominence
in your community. It will truly make you a in your commu
If you have not achieved the success to which
your abilitiesand talents justly entitle you, if you

Would like to secure a good paying position, obtain an increase in salary, if you care to rise you desire to wield a greater influence over others, if you care to win the love or friendship of some one you know, if you long for fame or
renown, you should write for a copy of this rerenown, you should writ
The following extracts from a few of the letters
The received from some of the people who have read and great value:
Wir. T. I. Lindenstruth, 39 East South Street, Wilkesbarre, Pa, says: "Your work on personal
magnetism is a fortune to anyone starting in life. It is absolutely sure to bring success." A. J. MeGinnis, 60 Ohio Street, Allegheny, Pa.,
says: "When I Wrote for your book I was inboring by the day. Now I am managing a business. This is certainly the best proof that could be of-
fered of its great value. I advise every man who wishes to succeed in life to get a copy at once." G. S. Lincoln, M. D, 101 Crutchfield Street, Dallas, Texas, writes: "Your methods of personal
influence are marvelous. I have used them on influence are marvelous. I have use
my patients with wonderful results."
S. R. King, M. D., Gilliam, Ind., writes: "You have truly sent me the most remarkable book I have ever read. Your instruction in personal magnetism is simply grand. It gives one a power and an influence over others which I did not dream it was possible for the average man to acanyonestarting in life. Its value cannot be estimated. My only regret is that it was not in my hands when I was a young man.
The New York Institute of Science has undertaken the free distribution of the book referred
to. Big roller presses are running day and night to supply the demand until the $\$ 10,000$ worth of books are distributed free. On account of the great expense incurred in preparing and printing this book only those are requested to write for
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VICK'S FAMILX MAGAZINE
Origin and Customs of Christmas (Concluded from page four.

## BEAUTIFUL GLEAR SKIN. TRIAL BOX MAILED FREE.

 y. New York, writes:
"I was $\begin{aligned} & \text { on embar- }\end{aligned}$
"I ember I Was so embar-
rassed with black-
heads, freckles
 and pimples that I
would not go into
society. II
flooded my home with com-
plexion remedie,
but my complexbut my complex-
ion defied them all.
I Bentfor a Package
of your Beauty Proof your Beauty Pro-
ducers and in two
weeks
time there was no trace of a
or blotch on my faceor neck. My skin is now without blemcosmetic, or bleach, and it contains no oil, grease, paste, or
poisons of any kind, but is a purely vegetable discovery and poaves the skin clear, soft and velvety A Anyone sending their
name and address to Mrs. Josephine Le Blare 131 Hali Blag St. Louis, Mo., will receive a free package of this wonderıu
beautifier in a plain sealed wrapper by mail prepadd.

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example of Celt and German, Briton and Frank in all the observances that honor the time as the greatest of the year. Even where the religious features of the. Day are not observed no one thinks of working. actories all close, but theatres ar open, inviting the over worked and weary to recreation; and while work is suspended and merriment prevails there is always ample feasting o choicest viands, and more lavish hospitality exchanged than the workfree spirit of the time would seem to rrant.
The Christmas tree seems to hav originated with the Teutons. Ger man legend has it that Martin Luther introduced the Christmas tree and its usages. It is said that as he traveled alone over the snow-clad country, he was impressed with the sublimity of the starry heavens above, the white snow beneath and the dark fir trees, bringing forcibly to mind the old Norse fable of the yew-tree binding earth to heaven and hades. Luther, on Christmas night, cut a small fi tree, stoodit in the living room, a home, lighted it with candles and with his assembled family, sang the hymn of the Nativity, before distributing the gifts placed upon its boughs. German artists have many famous pictures of Martin Luther in the midst of his family, with a lighted Christmas tree in front of

Protestant denominations do not specially celebrate Christmas by -religious services, though all have imbibed the spirit of the great reformer, and observe it socially and with good cheer. The Roman Catholics hold it sacred and celebrate it by the performance of three masses, one at midnight, one at daybreak and one in the morning.

Christmas will soon be here. The air is vibrant with the spirit of the day. It steals upon the most callous hearts, and thrills and tingles the sensibilities of the happy hearted, like wine upon the lees. Happily, if the day is traditional, in love and soulf influences, its observances are beneficent to the whole world.
Oyez! Oyez! Oyez! Call the court for Santa Claus. Light the Yule $\log$. Let its light from the hearthstone shine like the Star of Bethlehem, radiating far and wide. Let not the spirit of good will pause nor fold its wings until whole communities are brought into good fellowship and all family and personal animosities are thawed out, hard times made easy and troubles forgotten We may be getting a bit mixed in metaphor, but, imbued with Bob Crachet's Christmas spirit, with him and tiny Tim we chorus, over and over, for all, a Merry Christmas! Mrs. Drennan.

You can make pour friends happy by giving them a year's subscription to Vick's Magazine
for Christmas and they will have a pleasant reminder of you every month during the year. vanced to $\$ 1.00$ a pear in 1903.


Girls


When sold send us twill wiy one or more pieces.
at ond we will send jou Photographs Tell the Truth.

## Handsome Dressed Doll.

## Nearly one and one-half feet th h hight, impodred direetly from Eurone for us. This dol has a beauti- ful bisque head, blue

 ful bisque head, blue eyes, pearry teeth, 10 ng natura)golden curly rinklets, hat, dainty shoes and stock
 creature of dolldon, sweet and pretty as aniticeent
and will be asurce of endless pleasure and amuse-
and ment to the lititio ones. $\begin{aligned} & \text { Tis } \\ & \text { This much smaller than the } \\ & \text { doll and chatrit, but it gives an absolutell correctidea }\end{aligned}$ of how they look. It 18 from a photograph just taken
Our Patrons are Extremely Well Pleased with Our Premiums as the Following Letters Show.
 paid me for my work.
pren
Mrs. F. Cousin, Jacoby, La, writes: "Doll recetved surprised my little girl and she is delighted." Mrs. Charles Gray, Paines Point, Ill., writes: "Re
ceilvad doll all
many thanks," right yesterday. It was all right; Rosa Fehrenbach, East Bottoms, Mo., writes: "Re.
ceived my doll from you and was very much pleased with it. I thank you," Mrs. J. W. Hallard, Easton, Pa.., writes: "Reecifed
doll for selling goods and wast very much pleased with it. Willa,
concerning it.,
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(Written for Vick's Family Magazine.)

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The mistakes of our lives are many,
Their number is legion when told,
But by kindness of thought, and true actions wrought,
We can lessen the account ere we're old.
above the plodding tiller of the soil of a century ago to the envied position of the agriculturist of the twentieth century. Again we must not draw the reins too taut. A day off for sport now and then does a boy a world of good. Show me the boy that will not enthuse over a gun, a fishing rod or a circus and I will show you a "drum stick." No, no, boys must be boys-win their confidence and convince them that they have yours and all is well. Erect within their imaginations lofty ideals, then help them to attain to the loftiness of char acter and sweetness of soul of those ideals. Did I hear some one say that was teaching them to build air castles? True; teach them to build air castles if every gust tottles them over; by and by, through experience, they will lay the foundation deep and strong enough on which to complete a structure, grand and beau tiful.

As farmer's sons let them feel that while many pursuits are all right and honorable, there is nothing better than agriculture, and if they will put the same energy into it that they must put into a business career, it will bring equally as good returns.

David Harold Judd.
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VICK'S FAMILY MAGAZINE

TWO GOOD FAT HENS.
(Continued from November issue.)
Sweeping up the coins and bills, the girl with the brown braid thrust them into the pocket of the old woman and took her by the arm.
"I will go home with you," she said.

Five minutes later, in a bare but tidy kitchen, the heroine of the afternoon's adventure was pouring out to the "ould man" the whole story. Then the money was brought forth and counted, and the girl with the brown hair blessed first by one and then by the other, and then by both of the simple, honest pair. Then the old woman began bustling about the kitchen, hospitable and important.
'And it's a cup o' tay you must be takin' wid us. Sure, it's early yet, and your mother-bless the day she bore ye!-won't be worryin'. Draw up to the stove, darlint, and stick those little bits of pretty feet of yez into the oven. And what'll your ask ?'
'Anne Gresson. '
"Anne! Sure, the very name of the mother of the blessed Virgin herself. And is it strong or wake you'll be takin' your tay, dear?"

It was fully an hour before Anne could tear herself from the cosy kitchen. As she was putting on her coat some one knocked on the door, and the old man opening it, in rushed, panting and shame-faced, the boy with the speckled hens. bounded a great dog.
'Howly saints, the thafe himself!' cried the old woman.

The boy, crimson from confusion, less than from the buffets of the orm, burst out in eager denial.
I knew you'd think so, but it was my dog Merlin.'

Him stole the hins?
'No, no; I mean he'd been stolen a whole fortnight, and all of a sudden, as I was standing out on the platform, I saw him under a lamp post,-poor fellow, you ought to see him when he isn't half starved, he's a beauty, and I forgot all about the old hens, and I just jumped off and made a beeline for that lamp post. Of course he was gone when I got there,-the fellow who stole him had him on a chain, -but I heard him bark, and I ran double quick down the street, andthere, Merlin, there, old fellow, " and the boy buried his face in the yellow ruff of the great creature, who had placed two huge, loving paws on his master's shoulders.

But how did you ever find us? asked Anne.

Why, I remembered you said Ev ansville, and I tramped out. Didn't even ask if they'd take Merlin on the car, and didn't dare let him run behind; and I went to the priest.
"I thought perhaps, -" here the boy looked a little confused again, -"I thought perhaps from her,-from the way she talked, -the old lady was from Ireland-'

Right you are, County Cork; and foiner country you'll niver see if you live to be tin thousand.
'And the priest said he guessed it must be either Mrs. Brady or Mrs Finnegan or Mrs., Flaherty.
'Mrs. Patrick Flaherty, sure!'' exclaimed, in high feather, the delighted old man. "And a foine, knowin' gentleman is Father Carrol, sure! and, glory be! we give him the purse at Easter.
At the reference to the purse, the eyes of Mrs. Patrick Flaherty grew suddenly wistful.
"."Twill be a weary work, I'm thinkin', returnin' all the money to the kind folks that give it."
"Returning the money?" exclaimed Anne.
'Sure, dear; they only give it to make up for the hins; and here they both be, safe and sound.'
'Oh, you mustn't think of such a thing! I know they would none of
them take it back. But now I really must go.

And Merlin and I will see you as far as the cars," said the boy.
"Saints alive, old woman! you won't let the lad be goin' off widout a sip o' tay!'

When they were finally out in the street, Anne looked earnestly at the boy with her pretty blue eyes.
never for a moment believed you were a thief."


VICK'S FAMILY MAGAZINE

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A Cure Given By One Who Had It. Mark H. Jackson, Jasphe, Mich., July 2i, 1902. Dear sir: I received your splendid remedy and
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agrees best with my constitution of any thatt have
ever used. It have tried almost everthing and ever used. I have tried almost everything, and
cann not appreciate or thank you too much for gett-
ing up such a grand remedy. I am, Yours truly and affection
LOUIS A.

LOUIS A. MONROE.
Nine years ago I was attacked by muscular and
inflammatory rheumatism. I suffered as those who have it know, for over three years, and tried almost
everything. Finally I found a remedy, that cured everything. Finaly It haund a remed, thetrat cured
me completely and have
given it to a number who were terribly aftlicted, and me completely and it has not returned. H have
given it to a number who were terribly affictec, and
it effected a cure in every case. Any one desiring to it effected a cure in every case. Any one desiring to
give this spereious remedy atrial, I will send it on
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ment true.
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The Summer of the Heart.
For all the wintry flakes of frost it's summer time somewhere-
Violets in the valleys, bird songs in the air; The chilly winds have only blown the lily's lips apart-
It's summer in the world, my dear, and summer in the heart.
For all the gray skies glooming its summer in the dells;
In the merry song of reapers, in the tinkling of the bells;
The sweet south skies are brightening as with springtime's magic art-
But the sweetest summer, dearest, is the summer in the heart
Still, still the birds are singing, and still the groves are green,
And still the roses redden and the loyal lilies lean;
Love fades not with the season; when summer days depart,
It's summer still, my dearest, in the Eden of the heart!

## Photo Frame.

(Written for Vick's Family Magazine.)
Among the dainty gifts received by
friend at Christmas time, was a frame for a cabinet size picture which attracted my attention not only because of its daintiness but because its construction was so simple. It was in the shape of a horse shoe with the opening at the lower end. The back was of pasteboard covered with pale blue cambric and the circle was not cut from the center as in a real horseshoe. The front was cut out like the shoe and covered like the back. Over this was a crochet cover. This was a piece two inches wide and long enough to reach around the shoe. There were two rows of shells at each edge of the strip and these were connected by bars through which was run an inch wide ríbbon. Victoria crochet silk in pale blue was used for the crochet and a ribbon of the same shade was drawn through it. One edge of the lace was fastened to the outer edge of the horseshoe and the other edge fitted to the inner part of the shoe by a thread of the silk run in and drawn up enough to shirr it slightly. When both parts of the frame were sewed together the picture was slipped in at the lower end and held in place by a few stitches at the end of the shoe. A ribbon at the back suspended the frame. An ease back could be arranged if preferred.
A frame made in this way with white B. \& A. crochet silk and a ribbon of blue or gold run in would be very pretty. A plain cover of white crochet would also be nice. These could be cleaned when soiled by removing from the frame, then using a suds of white soap and soft water with a little borax added to whiten the silk. Rinse well and pin on a pillow to dry. A soft ribbon or piece of silk could be used for the front of the frame and the horse shoe nails simulated with Asiatic filo. Pearl color for the shoe with a darker shade for the nails would look well. A few four leaf clovers embroidered as though thrown carelessly across the frame would add to the "gocd luck" symbols.
A round frame could be made of the silk or crochet lace in a similar
manner, using a circle instead of a horseshoe for a pattern. A heart shape would also be pretty made in this way.

A pretty piece of old lace that is too tender for actual wear could be used for such a frame with good effect by displaying it over a back ground of pale blue and using blue ribbons to hang it with. R.E. Merryman.

Small Aids for the Thrifty Housewife.
If the end of a beefsteak has been blackened during the broiling process, and you wish to convert it into a mince or stew, simply wash it by pouring boiling water over it.
If a recipe calls for a cup of leftover gravy, and there is not such a thing in the refrigerator, make a substitute by stirring into a cup of boiling water a teaspoon of beef extract.
Chop all meat for sandwiches, and if there is too little of one sort to be used, combine with any other leftover, provided it is of a flavor that makes a good combination. Chicken, veal, ham, sweetbreads, and tender white pork may be used together. Meat used in slices, as in old-fashioned sandwiches, cannot be well seasoned. Minced, it can be mixed with mayonnaise, softened butter, cream or stock, and the seasoning may consist of anything, lemon, chopped pickle, celery or olives, a spoonful of mustard and lemon juice, a drop of tobasco or onion extract, grated horse-radish, vinegar, catsup, chives, parsley or grated cheese. The seasoning is limited only by taste and the ingredients on the pantry shelves. Nothing is too humble to be transformed into a delicious sandwich. Morsels of meat or fish can be chopped and rubbed to a paste, even one hard-boiled egg, with several tablespoons of meat, will make half a dozen excellent sandwiches. The secret lies in fine seasoning and dainty service.

When buttering pans, Dario molds, cake tins, or anything which requires greasing, use a small, flat, bristle paint brush. It costs ten cents, and if kept clean will last for years.
Cold soda biscuits can be dipped quickly in water and heated through,

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or they may be sliced thinly, toasted proper. The fastidous, neat and crisply and served with cuffee. Cold dainty housewives many of them never muffins are good split and toasted. practice it, but others carelessly allow Cold johnny cake, sliced thin, makes a sweet crisp toast for breakfast.
Keep constantly in the refrigerator a wide mouthed glass jar with mayonnaise or a boiled salad dressing. It can be made with some left-over yolks of eggs in an odd quarter of an hour while you wait for something to bake or stew, and the convenience of it can be realized only when the supply is out.
Wash eggs before using them, then save the shells for clearing coffee or soup. Four eggshells, to which something of the albumen clings, ar enough to clear one pot of coffee. The crushed eggshells are capital for cleaning the insides of cruets or any bottle with a narrow neck.
Sometimes yolks of eggs are left over when making a dish which calls for only whites; drop them gently in a bowl of water, if you do not need them immediately. They will not spoil if they stand for several days. Handle them carefully so they will not break.
A pinch of ground cloves in a warmed-up meat dish is often pleasing addition. Nutmeg is the spice to use with poultry,
In making hash, never stir with spoon; it makes the mixture disagreeably pasty. Toss lightly with fork.
Save the oil from good sardines; tablespoonful of it gives an agreeable flavor to a brown sauce for heating sardines and it economizes on butter
Before you fry cold potatoes, dus them with flour. They will taste bet ter and brown better
From" Left-Overs Made Palatable."
The Winter Trees.
In patient, silent ranks they stand, a wall Of purple shadow 'gainst the sky's dull gray, Not dead, but only dreaming of the day That once again shall voice the sweet spring' call,
Or summer's murmuring music rich. Not all The bare brown limbs that sway can sound a note,
Nor yet are heard the sylvan choirs remote, In tuneful joyance of old winter's fall.
But even now, with swelling pride that thrills Along their slender twigs, the young buds stir Expectant of the deeper glow that fills
The East's cold dawns. And soon will soothe the whirr
of gentler winds, while every leaf distills The richness that the dreaty days defer. James B. Carrington, in the Outlook

## An Important Health Item.

(Written for Vick's Family Magazine,
The readers of "Vick's Magazine" are certainly appreciative, cultiyated housewives and mothers, and this is one reason I desire to put before them this little health item which was given to me by a dear old lady-my first neighbor-and as I have grown older and lived longer, I see the importance of it. It is in regard to washing table linens with the regular wash. "Don't do it my child," she said. It is unhygienic and not

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## G The Care of the Teeth

 By Kate BurtonIf a person can flash you a bright smile, disclosing an even row of white well kept teeth, you can readily forgive him all other deficiencies, even if his complexion is not all it could be, and angular features also contribute to the make-up of his face. Indeed, such a person might often be called attractive.

The condition and appearance of ones teeth may affect him in more ways than one. The looks of decaying teeth alone, are bad enough; but when one unconsciously swallows the saliva, laden with filthy germs, it is ten times worse. If you do not care for your personal appearance, perhaps you do for your physical welfare, and in this case your teeth should receive a great deal of attention.
It is a possible thing to have nice, even teeth from the time the first ones appear until extreme old age; but in order to do so, they must be given frequent and careful attention. A mother should begin as soon as the milk teeth have appeared in the mouth of her child, and see that they do not lack for proper care. In this way, they will remain whole and sound until they drop out to make room for the permanent set. At first a soft cloth should be used, and afterwards soft brush.
As soon as a child is old enough to use a brush, he should be taught to clean his teeth at least once a day, and wice would be better. The brush should not be rubbed across the teeth so much as up and down; this will serve to dislodge particles more readily, and the gums will not be so apt to become torn. A brush with an un even surface is much better than smooth one; and if possible procure a kind with a curved handle to fit the mouth.
person's diet has a great deal to do with his teeth. Particles of meat will decay quicker than vegetable matter, and they should be promptly removed. Always use a small wooden toothpick and never a pin, or any thing else made of similar substance Hot coffee, tea and soup will help on decay, and if cold water is indulged in immediately afterwards, one may consider himself fortunate if a bad attack of toothache is not brought on therefore care should be used in this direction.
Although sometimes recommended as being good for cleaning the teeth salt and charcoal should not be used, especially if the enamel-the hard, outside part-is the least bit thin. Any substance that is coarse and gritty should not be used, and if nothing better can be procured, wash the teeth three times a day with luke warm water, rubbing them gently until well cleaned.

However, there are several good dentifrices-both liquid and in the
powdered form-that most people can procure, and these should be used. Do not accept cheap tooth powders, as these will prove cheap in more senses than one. They may also prove dear. At least once each week, take a piece of fine, silk thread and work it gently between the teeth, until every decay. ing particle has been removed. You will be surprised that the brush has left so much untouched.
The tooth brush should be well cared for. Thoroughly wash it under the faucet, every time after using, and put it in the tumbler handle end down. Every now and then give it a washing in soap suds. Of course it is unnecessary to state that each member of a family should have a brush for his own individual use.

As remarked once before, it is quite possible to keep one's teeth even, firm and white; but if the work is not begun early enough, and decay gains a foothold before a person is aware, a reliable dentist should be consulted at the earliest opportunity and the teeth put in proper shape. Parents should not allow their children to influence them against having their teeth filled, because "it will hurt so;" but once a year at least they should be taken to a dentist, and have their

## Dec. 23rd, 1901.

Dr. Eari S. Sloan, Boston, Mass.
Dear Sir - If I had known of your wonderful Nerve and Bone Liniment previous to Aug. 29th. On that date I slipped from a step-ladder and bruised my left arm and shoulder. The Doctor assured me that no bones were broken, but that the muscles and nerves were strained, which in several dollars worth of prescriptions, without any result whatever, I concluded that I should always be a cripple. On Dec. 12th I stepped into a drug store and got a 25 cent bottle of your Lini ment, and the instant that I applied it as per diThe LINIMENT cannot be too highly recommended and I shall make it a point to solicit the trade to keep it whenever I can do so. I have now only used it seven days and my arm is a most well.
(Signed) P. R. Coleman

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Owing to close confinement in business I suffered from a bad touch of indigestion, so much so as to cause me intense pain. My tongue was coated ; had severe pains around my eyes and felt miserable. Through the persuasion of a friend I tried Ripans Tabules, and after taking them for two days I obtained some relief. kept on taking them, and can safely say they have cured me.

## At druggists.

The Five-Cent packet is enough for an ordinary occasion. The family bottle, 60 cents, contains a supply for a year.

VICK'S FAMILY teeth thoroughly examined and tended to. Grown people, as well, should follow this rule. Have the teeth well cleaned by some person that understands the work, whenever they begin to appear yellow and ill-looking.

Filled teeth do not necessarily detract from ones looks; certainly they are much better than teeth with dis reputable black cavities; and if gold filling can be indulged in for the front teeth, at least, it will not infrequently add much to ones appearance.

A person with a well filled, well cared for set of teeth, always gives one the impression that he is a self-respecting individual, and therefore creates respect from others; but he who wilfully allows his teeth to go neglected from one year to another, and suffers toothache and unkind remarks in consequence, arouses no feeling in one except a desire to pilot him off to the nearest dentist.
Children should not be allowed to eat too much candy, for too great a quantity of this creates an unwholesome heat in the mouth, that will bring on decay. It is an excellent plan to clean the teeth just wefore retiring. If you cannot clean them but once a day, let it be at bedtime.

## Successful Shirking.

Half the mental and more than half the bodily ills women undergo would be lightened if they could learn to shirk scientifically.

This is a faculty that must be cultivated. Few women north of Mason and Dixon's line are born with it. When the Puritan fathers bequeathed to their descendants brown bread, baked beans and alleged liberty of thought, they threw in what is still known as "Puritan conscience." From the onus of this conscience must the woman free herself who would make a science of shirking.

As a matter of course the woman who makes a science of shirking is a diplomatist. When she shirks breadmaking because there is something else of more importance on hand, she buys a breadstuff so pleasing that the family feel they are having a treat. If she shirks her duty calls she invites the sinned-against friend to a meal at the house or writes her a flattering note about her last club paper. Christine Terhune Herrick in Collier's Weekly.

## Free to Dyspeptics.

If you suffer from distress, bloating, Heart-burn, Sour Stomach or Water Brash, you can find relief and what is better in most cases a cure by using "Glycozone." This scientific germicide stops fermentation of food in stomach, allays inflammation of mucous membrane, and is absolutely harmless. To demonstrate its wonderful efficiency, if you mention this publication I will send on receipt of 20 cents (which covers postage), a liberal sample of Glycozone that will prove its merit. Prof. Charles Marchand, 59 Prince street, New York.

## VICK'S WINDOW GARDEN

Here is an opportunity for you to make a beautiful addition to your Window Garden, if you
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